

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Lector: Barbara Albright

Communion Assistant: Elizabeth Hurley

Acolytes: Langdon & Calen MacFarlane

Ushers: Brad Baker, Chip Harward,
Taylor Pruette, Al Pieschel, Jon Miller

Videographer: TJ DePaulis

Greeter: Laura Patterson

Building Supervisor: Tommy Propst

PRAYER LIST

Cecil Berry (friend of Gretchen Walker); Family of Michael Black (nephew of Patsy Black); Patsy Black; 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); Catherine Durst (daughter of Anne & Dee Hodges); Nadine Filipak (friend of Al & Dee Pieschel); Phyllis Freeman (Mother of Fonda Shumate); Ed Frost (friend of the Marlow's); Ginger Gibbs (Friend of Jeff & Deedee Gilbert); Jeff Gilbert; Tom Grady; Nancy Haney (loved one of Betsy Ballard); Ryan Hardister (son of Bill & Reggie Hardister); Maureen Hollmeyer; The Hopkins Family; Hunter Huss; 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); Leonard "Buddy" McEachern; Jason Matthews; Barbara Merrell; Deb & Roger Myers (friends of Deb Black); Dave Olsen (friend of Patsy Black); Mason Overby; Stan Parnell (friend of Rob & Debbie Davis); Becky Phillips; Al Pieschel; Lori Pittard; Corinne Robbins; Lori Ruff (mother of Christine Ruff); Jessica Seeley (cousin of Christine Ruff); Ruby Tyer (niece of Beth Huss' friend).

To assist in your offering
Secure Online Giving



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Thank you for supporting St. James

**The Second Sunday after Pentecost
June 7, 2026**

**The Holy Communion
10:00am**



**St. James Lutheran Church
104 Union Street South
PO Box 684
Concord, North Carolina 28026
704-786-0166
www.sjnc.net
Rev. William C. Ridenhour, Pastor**

Welcome to St. James Lutheran Church

Maybe you need forgiveness, or maybe you need to forgive ... Maybe you're tired and you need a little space to breathe ... Maybe you're trying church for the first time, or maybe you're trying church for the last time... Maybe you've spent your whole life wondering if God really loves you... Maybe you're lonely... Maybe you're sick... Maybe you came here looking for a miracle... Maybe you came here looking for another church but got disoriented and came here instead, and now it's too late to get up and walk out... Maybe, with God, there are no accidents... Maybe, with God, there is hope and healing and miraculous companionship... Maybe, with God, there is space to breathe and forgiveness on top of forgiveness... Maybe, with God, there is love... Maybe, with God here in our midst, we will hear those words that still split open the heavens, "You are my son! You are my daughter! You are my beloved. You. In you I am well pleased!" Maybe this is why we gather together, week after week after week, here at St. James.

No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome in this place - not just by the Saints at St. James, but by the God who revealed himself in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, our brother, and our friend.

Welcome to St. James.

If you are comfortable doing so, please introduce yourself to Pastor Bill. If you have visited with us a number of times and think you might want to "make it official," please speak to Pastor Bill. If you have any questions, please feel free to speak to the person next to you or to an usher.

Restrooms are located on the first and second floor of the Education Building. A nursery is available for children up to and including five years of age on the first floor of the education building. An usher will be happy to help you find them.

If you're visiting or if you have been here for 99 years (and are willing to do so), please sign a pew pad.

Let us know you visited!



Scan to connect!

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

June 9 – Grant Weisel
June 10 – Michael Strahl
June 13 – Terry Splawn

CHURCH CALENDAR THIS WEEK

Sunday, June 7	9:00am	Choir
	9:30am	Children's Sunday School
	10:00am	Worship
	11:00am	<i>Aloha Summer Party!</i> 🌴
Monday, June 8	10:30am	Quilting
Tuesday, June 9	6:00pm	Congregation Council
Thursday, June 11	6:30pm	Choir Rehearsal
Sunday, June 14	9:00am	Choir
	9:30am	Children's Sunday School
	10:00am	Worship
	4:00pm	Choir Performing at Providence United Methodist Church (Charlotte)

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH SERVICE OPPORTUNITY

Rising 6th–8th grade youth are invited to serve with The Salvation Army this June by helping pack fresh food boxes for local families in need.

Volunteers will serve **Thursdays in June beginning June 4, from 12:00–2:30pm** at The Salvation Army, located at 216 Patterson Ave SE, Concord, NC 28025.

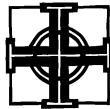
Youth will help sort, pack, and load food boxes alongside Salvation Army staff and adult volunteers from St. James.

Please RSVP through SignupGenius and complete a volunteer form. Volunteer forms may be downloaded or picked up from the church office. Completed volunteer forms should be brought to Cheryl Webb.

For additional information call or text Cheryl Webb: 832-275-8872.

RSVP:





St James Lutheran Church:
Growing in Christ through Worship, Learning, Fellowship and Service.

THE HOLY COMMUNION



Please silence your phones. Thank you.

When not printed, hymn harmonies may be found in the green LBW hymnal.

Welcome

Prelude

Please stand.

THE INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

THE BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Please sit or kneel, as able.
 Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

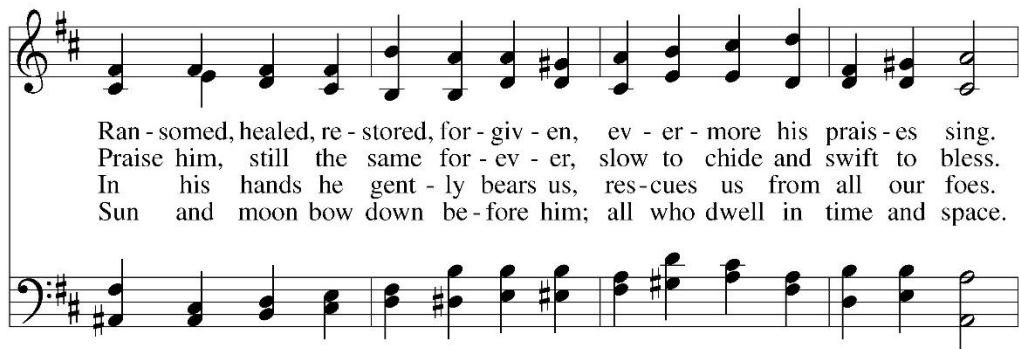
P Most merciful God,
C **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen**

P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

THE ENTRANCE HYMN: #549 Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

1 Praise, my soul, the King of heav - en; to his feet your trib - ute bring.
 2 Praise him for his grace and fa - vor to our fore-bears in dis-tress.
 3 Ten - der - ly he shields and spares us; well our fee - ble frame he knows.
 4 An - gels help us to a - dore him, who be-hold him face to face.



Ran - sored, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en, ev - er - more his prais - es sing.
 Praise him, still the same for - ev - er, slow to chide and swift to bless.
 In his hands he gent - ly bears us, res - cues us from all our foes.
 Sun and moon bow down be - fore him; all who dwell in time and space.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the ev - er - last - ing King!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious in his faith - ful - ness!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Wide - ly as his mer - cy flows.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace.

THE APOSTOLIC GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
C **And also with you.**

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you
C **And also with you.**
P O God, the strength of those who hope in you: Be present and hear our prayers; and, because in the weakness of our mortal nature we can do nothing good without you, give us the help of your grace, so that in keeping your commandments we may please you in will and deed; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
C **Amen.**



Please sit.

THE FIRST READING: Hosea 5:15-6:6

I will return again to my place
 until they acknowledge their guilt and seek my face.
 In their distress they will beg my favour:

‘Come, let us return to the Lord;
 for it is he who has torn, and he will heal us;
 he has struck down, and he will bind us up.

² After two days he will revive us;
 on the third day he will raise us up,
 that we may live before him.

³ Let us know, let us press on to know the Lord;
 his appearing is as sure as the dawn;
 he will come to us like the showers,
 like the spring rains that water the earth.’

⁴ What shall I do with you, O Ephraim?
 What shall I do with you, O Judah?
 Your love is like a morning cloud,
 like the dew that goes away early.

⁵ Therefore I have hewn them by the prophets,
 I have killed them by the words of my mouth,
 and my judgement goes forth as the light.

⁶ For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice,
 the knowledge of God rather than burnt-offerings.

A The Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

THE SECOND READING: Romans 4:13-25

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴ If it is the

adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵ For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

¹⁶ For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, ¹⁷ as it is written, 'I have made you the father of many nations')—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸ Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become 'the father of many nations', according to what was said, 'So numerous shall your descendants be.' ¹⁹ He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. ²⁰ No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹ being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²² Therefore his faith 'was reckoned to him as righteousness.' ²³ Now the words, 'it was reckoned to him', were written not for his sake alone, ²⁴ but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, ²⁵ who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

A The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand.

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 9th chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord**

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, 'Follow me.' And he got up and followed him.

¹⁰ And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax-collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. ¹¹ When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, 'Why does your teacher eat with tax-collectors and sinners?' ¹² But when he heard this, he said, 'Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. ¹³ Go and learn what this means, "I desire mercy, not sacrifice." For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners.'

While he was saying these things to them, suddenly a leader of the synagogue came in and knelt before him, saying, 'My daughter has just died; but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live.' ¹⁹ And Jesus got up and followed him, with his disciples. ²⁰ Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from haemorrhages for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak, ²¹ for she said to herself, 'If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well.' ²² Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, 'Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well.' And instantly the woman was made well. ²³ When Jesus came to the leader's house and saw the flute-players and the crowd making a commotion, ²⁴ he said, 'Go away; for the girl is not dead but sleeping.' And they laughed at him. ²⁵ But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up. ²⁶ And the report of this spread throughout that district.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please sit.

THE SERMON

Pastor Bill Ridenhour

Please stand.

THE HYMN OF THE DAY: #431 Your Hand, O Lord, In Days of Old



1 Your hand, O Lord, in days of old was strong to heal and save;
 2 And lo, your touch brought life and health, gave speech and strength and sight;
 3 Oh, be our great de - liv - 'rer still, the Lord of life and death;



it tri-umphed o'er dis - ease and death, o'er dark - ness and the grave.
 and youth re - newed and fren - zy calmed re - vealed you, Lord of light.
 re - store and quick - en, soothe and bless, with your life - giv - ing breath.



To you they came, the blind, the dumb, the pal - sied and the lame,
 And now, O Lord, be near to bless, al - might - y as be - fore,
 To hands that work and eyes that see give wis - dom's heal - ing pow'r,



the lep - ers in their mis - er - y, the sick with fe - vered frame.
 in crowd - ed street, by beds of pain, as by Gen - nes - 'ret's shore.
 that whole and sick and weak and strong may praise you ev - er - more.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
 and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.*

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy catholic Church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body,
 and the life everlasting. Amen**

THE PRAYERS

A Let us pray for the Church, the world, and one another.

Father, you have created us, blessed us, and forgiven us. You send us to share your forgiveness with fellow sinners. Help us to do that eagerly and well! Give us strength to find our joy and purpose in life by loving you with our whole heart, soul, mind, and strength, and our neighbor as ourself. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Shape your Church into the image of Jesus. Make it a place of steadfast love and righteousness. Make it a place of forgiveness, hope, and praise. Make it a place of truth and grace. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Guide the people of this congregation in pathways of faithful worship, loving service, and wise words. Let everything we say and do help lead even one other precious soul a step closer to Jesus. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord, please give wisdom, integrity, and common sense to everyone in positions of authority in our country, and around the world. Teach them rightly to use the authority and power entrusted to them. And help all of us to be good neighbors, citizens, and stewards of your good creation. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Protect and guide all whose work is difficult or dangerous, especially Mason and all those who protect us from harm. They need your good gifts of courage, competency, and dedication! So do we. Help us to honor their work, and to not make it any harder than it already is through needless fear, foolishness, or malice. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Your Son healed everyone who called upon him for aid. We pray, therefore, on behalf of everyone who suffers in body, mind, or spirit. Restore them to health, and strengthen their faith in you, the God whose promises have their Yes in Jesus Christ. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, thank you for those whom we loved who have gone before us, who shaped our faith and our lives, and who now rest in your embrace. Fill us with your Holy Spirit, so our lives may be a blessing to others. Lead us into your house of many rooms, where we may be reunited with your saints of times past, greet those unknown to us, and rejoice with them in your presence forever.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

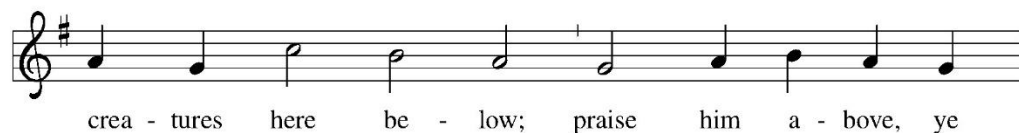
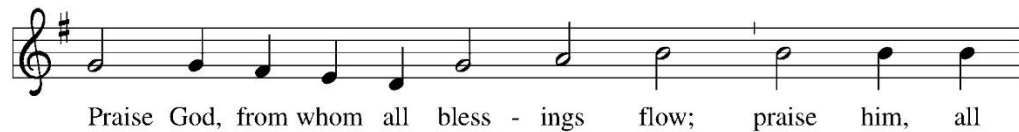
Please sit.

THE ANTHEM

THE OFFERING

Please stand.

THE OFFERTORY #564 "The Doxology"



THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Let us pray.

A Blessed are you,

C **O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**



THE COMMUNION RITE

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times

and in all places offer thanks and praise to you,

O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord;

who on this day overcame death and the grave,

and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven,

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

P Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.
In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son,
that all those who believe in him
should not perish, but have eternal life.

We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared
for us through Jesus Christ.

Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts,
that we may receive our Lord with a living faith
as he comes to us in his holy supper.

C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in your Kingdom and teach us to pray:

C **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

Give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those

who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

and the power, and the glory,

forever and ever. Amen.

☞ Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;

grant us peace, grant us peace.

Please sit.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Q: What is the Sacrament of the Altar?

A: Instituted by Christ himself, it is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, given to us Christians to eat and to drink.

Q: What is the benefit of such eating and drinking?

A: We are told in the words “for you” and “for the forgiveness of sins.” By these words the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation are given to us in the sacrament, for where there is forgiveness of sins, there are also life and salvation.

-Luther's Small Catechism Part V

Jesus bids all the baptized to feast at his table. For those unable to partake of wine, white grape juice is available. If you wish for the pastor to bring communion to you. Please advise an usher.

Please stand.

THE POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P Let us pray,

A Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord

C Amen

Silence for reflection.



THE BENEDICTION

P Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C Amen

THE SENDING HYMN: #551 Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,

Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!

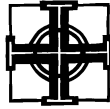
Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - 'ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;

Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.
teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

THE DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Postlude



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THANK YOU!

Your generosity makes ministry happen at St. James.

Offerings Budgeted for 2026	\$405,055
Offerings Received as of May 31, 2026	\$157,613
Offerings Expected as of May 31, 2026	\$168,773
DEFICIET as of May 31, 2026	-\$11,160

STAY CONNECTED!

Sign up to receive our weekly *Ring Out* e-newsletter for news, events, and ministry updates.



Follow us on social media:

Facebook & Instagram: @stjamesnc
YouTube: @stjameslutheranconcord

REGISTRATION OPEN FOR VBS!

Vacation Bible School will be held **Sunday, July 26–Tuesday, July 28**, beginning each evening at 5:30 p.m.

Please plan to register by the end of June to guarantee a t-shirt!

If you are available to volunteer, please check to make sure your *Safe Gatherings* background check is current. If you are a first-time volunteer, please email holly@sjnc.net to begin the process.

❄️ This year's theme: Snowball Mountain Challenge! ❄️

Register: [➔](#)



MY FATHER'S HOUSE

St. James Lutheran Church will be providing dinner for the residents of My Father's House Shelter Ministry on **Monday, June 22** (*no Tuesday meal*).

Volunteers are needed to provide side dishes, desserts, and snacks to accompany a ham dinner. Suggested items include mac & cheese, Bob Evans mashed potatoes, baked beans, vegetables, casseroles, fresh fruit, and desserts (think kid-friendly). Snack donations such as Lance crackers, juice boxes, Capri Suns, and fresh fruit are also appreciated.

For details or to sign up, contact Martha Matthews at 704-787-2180. Martha can provide the current headcount and answer questions.

SONSHINE BACKPACK JUNE SUPPLY DRIVE

Help provide weekend food for local children in need through our partnership with Sunshine Backpacks. Requested items include shelf-stable milk, cereal, mac & cheese, canned goods, granola bars, juice, popcorn, and pudding. Donations are due on the back kitchen counter by **June 28**. Questions? Contact Sylvia Corl or Gretchen Walker.

SPECIAL CHOIR PERFORMANCE

The St. James Lutheran Parish Choir will perform in an American Guild of Organists concert on **Sunday, June 14, at 4:00pm** at Providence United Methodist Church in Charlotte. Come support our choir and enjoy an afternoon of music!