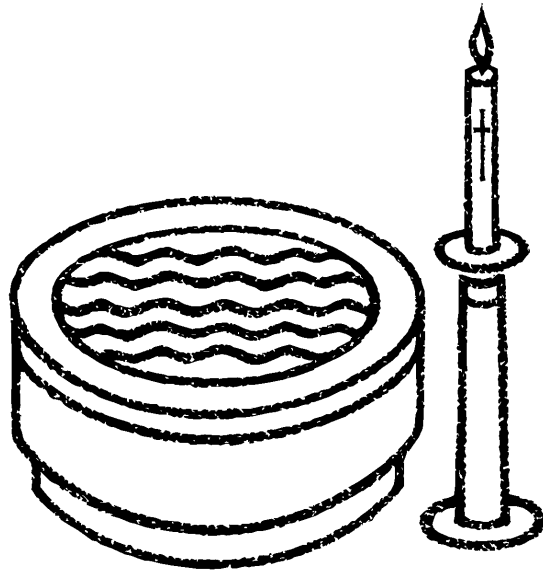


**The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 22, 2024**

**The Holy Communion
The Rite of Holy Baptism
10:00am**



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

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.

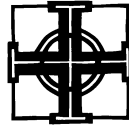
No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome in this place - not just by the Saints at St. James, but by the God who revealed himself in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, our brother, and our friend.

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.



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

THE HOLY COMMUNION
with
THE RITE OF HOLY BAPTISM

*This morning we celebrate with Andrew and Jennifer Propst as they present their son,
 Theodore Arthur Propst for Holy Baptism.*



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 ENTRANCE HYMN: Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

A harmony graphic is not available. Please see #423 in the green hymnal (LBW).



1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser - vice bore the weight of hu-man need,
 2 Still your chil-dren wan-der home-less; still the hun - gry cry for bread;
 3 As we wor-ship, grant us vi - sion, till your love's re - veal-ing light



who up - on the cross, for - sak - en, worked your mer-cy's per - fect deed:
 still the cap - tives long for free - dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
 in its height and depth and great-ness dawns up - on our quick-ened sight,



we, your ser - vants, bring the wor-ship not of voice a - lone, but heart;
 As you, Lord, in deep com-pas - sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
 mak-ing known the needs and bur-dens your com-pas-sion bids us bear,



con-se - crat - ing to your pur - pose ev - 'ry gift which you im - part.
 by your Spir - it send your pow - er to our world to make it whole.
 stir-ring us to ar - dent ser - vice, your a - bun - dant life to share.

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 Lord God, you call us to work in your vineyard and leave no one standing idle. Set us to our tasks in the work of your kingdom, and help us to order our lives by your wisdom; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen**

Please sit.



THE FIRST READING: Jeremiah 11:18-20

¹⁸It was the Lord who made it known to me, and I knew; then you showed me their evil deeds. ¹⁹But I was like a gentle lamb led to the slaughter. And I did not know it was against me that they devised schemes, saying, “Let us destroy the tree with its fruit, let us cut him off from the land of the living, so that his name will no longer be remembered!” ²⁰But you, O Lord of hosts, who judge righteously, who try the heart and the mind, let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause.

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

ANTHEM I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry

The Choir will lead the hymn.

The congregation is welcome to remain seated and sing with them.

- 1. I was there to hear your borning cry, I'll be there when you are old. I rejoiced the day you were baptized to see your life unfold. I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well; in a blaze of light you wandered off to find where demons dwell.*
- 2. When you heard the wonder of the Word I was there to cheer you On; you were raised to praise the living Lord, to whom you now belong. If you find someone to share your time and you join your hearts as one, I'll be there to make your verses rhyme from dusk till rising sun.*
- 3. In the middle ages of your life, not too old, no longer young, I'll be there to guide you through the night, complete what I've begun. When the evening gently closes in and your shut your weary eyes, I'll be there as I have always been with just one more surprise.*
- 4. I was there to hear your borning cry, I'll be there when you are old. I rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold.*

THE SECOND READING: James 3:13—4:3, 7-8a

¹³Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. ¹⁴But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. ¹⁵Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. ¹⁶For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. ¹⁷But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to

yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. ¹⁸And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.^{4:}

¹Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? ²You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. ³You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. ⁷Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ^{8a}Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

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 GOSPEL

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 9th chapter.
C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

³⁰[Jesus and the disciples went on] and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it;³¹for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, “The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.” ³²But they did not understand what he was saying and were

afraid to ask him.

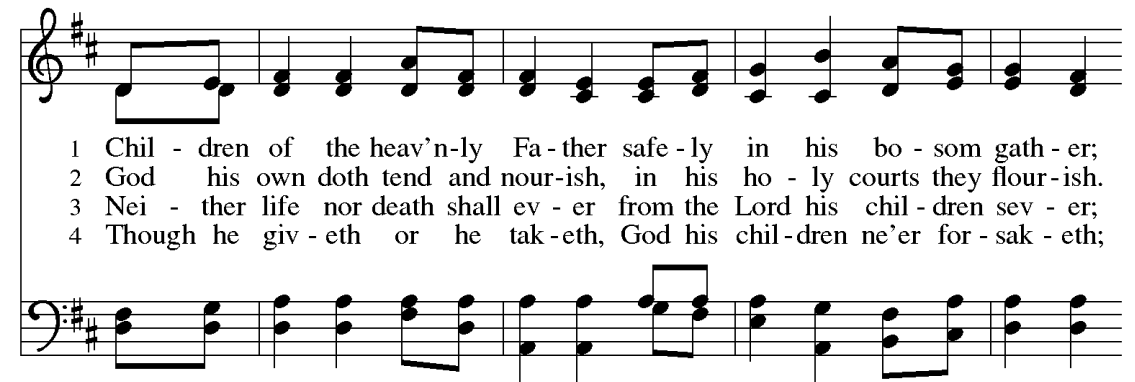
³³Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, “What were you arguing about on the way?” ³⁴But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. ³⁵He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, “Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.” ³⁶Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, ³⁷“Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

THE SERMON

Please stand.

THE HYMN OF THE DAY: Children of the Heavenly Father



1 Chil - dren of the heav'n-ly Fa - ther safe - ly in his bo - som gath - er;
2 God his own doth tend and nour-ish, in his ho - ly courts they flour-ish.
3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er from the Lord his chil - dren sev - er;
4 Though he giv - eth or he tak - eth, God his chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth;

nest - ling bird nor star in heav - en such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
 From all e - vil things he spares them, in his might - y arms he bears them.
 un - to them his grace he show - eth, and their sor - rows all he know - eth.
 his the lov - ing pur - pose sole - ly to pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.



THE BAPTISMAL RITE

Please sit.

The minister addresses the baptismal group and the congregation.

P In Holy Baptism our gracious heavenly Father liberates us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a sinful humanity; in the waters of Baptism we are reborn children of God and inheritors of eternal life. By water and the Holy Spirit we are made members of the Church which is the body of Christ. As we live with him and with his people, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

P Whom do you present to receive the Sacrament of Holy Spirit?

R I/We present Theodore Arthur Propst.

The minister addresses the sponsors and parents.

P In Christian love you have presented this child for Holy Baptism. You should, therefore, faithfully bring him to the services of God's house, and teach him the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments. As he grows in years, you should place in his hands the Holy Scriptures and provide for his instruction in the Christian faith, that, living in the covenant of his Baptism and in communion with the Church, he may lead a godly life until the day of Jesus Christ.

Do you promise to fulfill these obligations?

R I do.

Please Stand (yes, stand for the prayers).

The Prayers are offered.

A Let us pray for he who is to be baptized and for all the baptized everywhere:

A That Teddy may be redeemed from all evil and rescued from the way of sin and death: Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A That the Holy Spirit may open all our hearts to your grace and truth: Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A That all the baptized may be kept in the faith and communion of your holy Church: Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A That the baptized may be sent into the world in witness to your love: Lord, in your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

A That the baptized may be brought to the fullness of your peace and glory: Lord, in your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

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

The minister begins the thanksgiving.

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

P Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: We give you thanks, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and you created heaven and earth. By the gift of water you nourish and sustain us and all living things.

By the waters of the flood you condemned the wicked and saved those whom you had chosen, Noah and his family. You led Israel by the pillar of cloud and fire through the sea, out of slavery into the freedom of the promised land. In the waters of the Jordan your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Spirit. By the baptism of his own death and resurrection your beloved Son has set us free from the bondage to sin and death, and has opened the way to the joy and freedom of everlasting life. He made water a sign of the kingdom and of cleansing and rebirth. In obedience to his command, we make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, so that he who is here baptized may be given new life. Wash away the sin of he who is cleansed by this water and bring him forth as an inheritor of your glorious kingdom.

To you be given praise and honor and worship through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C **Amen**

The minister addresses the baptismal group and the congregation.

P I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the Church, the faith in which we baptize.

P Do you renounce all the forces of evil, the devil, and all his empty promises?

R I do.

P Do you believe in God the Father?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

C **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.

P Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

C **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 minister baptizes the candidate.

P Theodore Arthur Propst is baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

Please Sit.

The Laying on of Hands (Confirmation)

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we give you thanks for freeing your
sons and daughters from the power of sin and for raising them up to a new life
through this holy sacrament. Pour your Holy Spirit upon Theodore: the spirit
of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of
knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence.

C **Amen**

The Anointing with Oil.

P Theodore Arthur Propst, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit
and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

C **Amen**

A lighted candle is given to the baptized.

A Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and
glorify your Father in heaven.

P O God, the giver of all life, look with kindness upon the father and mother of
this child. Let them ever rejoice in the gift you have given them. Make them
teachers and examples of righteousness for their child. Strengthen them in
their own Baptism so they may share eternally with their child the salvation
you have given them, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen**

Please Stand.

P Through Baptism God has made this new brother a member of the priesthood
we all share in Christ Jesus, that we may proclaim the praise of God and bear
his creative and redeeming Word to all the world.

C **We welcome you into the Lord's family. We receive you as a fellow
member of the body of Christ, a child of the same heavenly Father, and a
worker with us in the kingdom of God.**

P The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

Please sit.

THE OFFERING

THE ANTHEM

Cantique de Jean Racine

Gabriel Fauré

Soprano Saxophone: Brad Davis

O Redeemer Divine, our sole hope of salvation, eternal light of the earth and the sky,
we kneel in adoration, O Savior, turn on us thy loving eye.

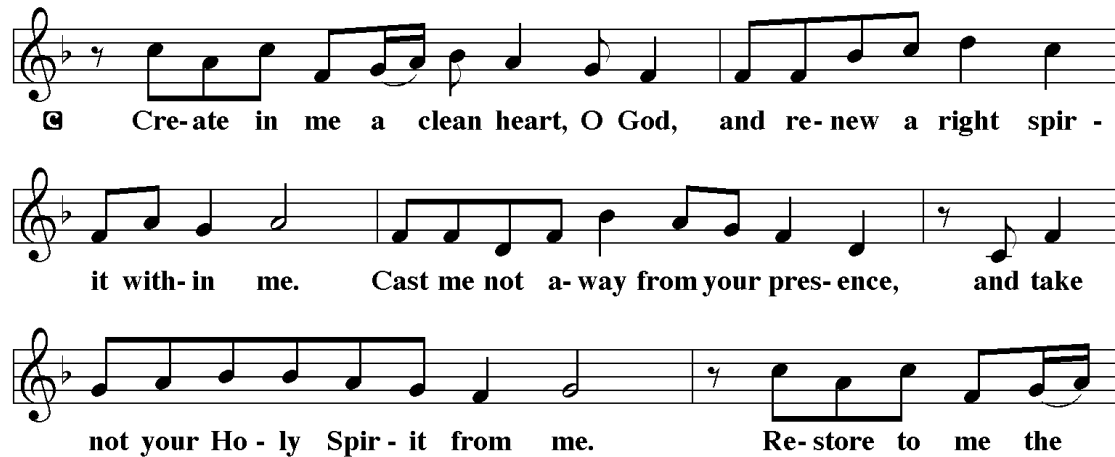
Send down on us the fire of thy grace all-consuming, whose wondrous might
dispersed the powers of hell, and rouse our slumbering souls with radiance all-
illuminating, that they may waken thy mercy to tell.

O Christ bestow thy blessing on us, we implore thee,
who here are gathered on penitent knee.

Accept the hymns we chant to thine everlasting glory
and these thy gifts we return unto thee.

Please stand.

THE OFFERTORY



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spir -
it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store to me the



joy of your sal-va - tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir - it.

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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:

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 Holy, mighty and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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 all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, that by this Holy Communion we may know the unity we share with all your people in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

C Amen.

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. Please come by way of the center aisle and return by the side aisle. If you need help figuring out where to and when to go, an usher or fellow worshiper will help you. At one time we too were confused. For those unable to partake of wine, white grape juice is available. If you are unable to come to the altar, the pastor will bring communion to you at your seat. 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.

P We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen



THE BENEDICTION

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

C Amen

THE SENDING HYMN: Go, My Children With My Blessing

1 “Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
2 “Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
3 “Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.
4 “I the Lord will bless and keep you, and give you peace.

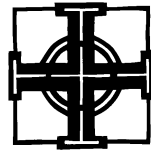
Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.
I the Lord will smile up - on you, and give you peace.

In my love's bap-tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
 Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here his ten - der com - fort stilled you.
 I the Lord will be your Fa - ther, Sav - ior, Com - fort - er and Broth - er.

Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."
 Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."
 Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."
 Go, my chil - dren, I will keep you, and give you peace."

THE DISMISSAL

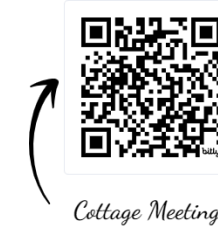
P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
 C Thanks be to God.



COPYRIGHT:
Lutheran Book of Worship © 1978. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Licenses SAS-002140, SB177826.
Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service (Text) © Oxford University Press (New York). Reprinted/podcast/streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE A-735002. All Rights Reserved.
Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service (Arrangement) © Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted/podcast/streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE A-735002. All Rights Reserved.
I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry Text and music © 1985 John C. Ylvisaker. Reprinted/podcast/streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE A-735002. All Rights Reserved.
Children of the Heavenly Father © Text © 1925 Board of Publication, Lutheran Church in America, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted/podcast/streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE A-735002. All Rights Reserved.
Go My Children with My Blessing. Text © 1983 Jaroslav J. Vajda. Copyright Holder CPH Publishing (SESAC). Reprinted/podcast/streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE A-735002. All Rights Reserved.

COTTAGE MEETINGS

St. James is excited to announce the start of Cottage Meetings. These meetings are meant to bring members together in small groups with Pastor Bill. Scan the QR Code to see upcoming meeting dates and to sign up! If you are interested in hosting a Cottage Meeting, please email LeeAnn Miller, lbmiller1@carolina.rr.com.



CROP HUNGER WALK

St. James is a registered team for this year's Cabarrus County CROP Hunger Walk on **Sunday, October 13th**. Consider supporting by joining the St. James team or donating: <https://bit.ly/StJamesCropWalk>.

BLESSING BOX

St. James is sponsoring the Blessing Box for **the month of September**. Please consider donating items throughout the month to be placed at the box in Rotary Square. Requested items include nonperishable food items, baby food, bottled water, and hygiene items. Items may be placed in the Blessing Box or in the collection bin in the portico. Contact Chris Miller with questions.

BETHLEHEM AT THE FARM – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Please save the date & consider volunteering for Bethlehem at the Farm 2024!
 This year's event will be **Sunday, December 8, from 4pm - 7pm**.
 We need a large number of volunteers to act as townspeople for the village.
 Volunteers to arrive by 3:30pm; costumes to be provided.
 We are also in need of 6 pop-up/easy-up tents for the event. If you would be able to provide a tent, please email info@sjnc.net. Tents may be dropped at the church.

NC WELCA CABARRUS/STANLY CONFERENCE – REGISTER NOW!

Join us on **Saturday, October 5, 2024**, for the NC Women of the ELCA Cabarrus/Stanny Fall Conference gathering! Program will include food, fellowship, offerings, and special program. Registration is \$10. Register at: <https://bit.ly/NCWELCAFALLCONFERENCE>

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Sept. 22 – John Patterson, Patricia Propst
Sept. 23 – Annette Propst
Sept. 24 – Lois Marlow
Sept. 27 – Jeff Faggart, Tommy Propst
Sept. 28 – Francie Davis, Miles Marlow, Chris Miller

CHURCH CALENDAR THIS WEEK

Sunday, Sept. 22	9:00 am	Adult Sunday School
	9:00 am	Parish Choir
	9:30 am	Children's Sunday School
	10:00 am	Worship
	11:00 am	God's Work. Our Hands.
Monday, Sept. 23	10:30 am	Quilting
	6:30 pm	Bible Study
	6:30 pm	Scouts
Tuesday, Sept. 24	3:00 pm	Cottage Meeting (<i>Hosted by Nancy Faggart</i>)
Wednesday, Sept. 25	5:30 pm	Handbells Practice
	7:00 pm	Choir Practice
Thursday, Sept. 26	7:00 pm	Cottage Meeting (<i>Hosted by Anne & Dee Hodges</i>)
Sunday, Sept. 29	9:00 am	Adult Sunday School
	9:00 am	Parish Choir
	9:30 am	Children's Sunday School
	10:00 am	Worship

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 5: NC WELCA Cabarrus/Stanny Conference
October 13: CROP Hunger Walk
October 27: Trunk or Treat
November 24: Thanksgiving Worship & Pie Party
December 1: Advent Tree Lighting
December 8: Bethlehem at the Farm – *Volunteers Needed!*

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Lector/Intercessor: Kim Haberman
Communion Assistant: Samantha Hillegass
Acolyte/Crucifer: Noah Pittard
Ushers: Chip Blackwelder, Michael Rinker, Ashley Cline, Jeff Koenig, Barbara Albright
Videographer: Ann Blackwelder
Greeter: Barbara Albright
Building Supervisor: Mike Rinker

ALTAR FLOWERS

The altar flowers for today are given by Annette & Kenny Propst to the Glory of God and in honor of the Baptism of their grandson, Teddy Propst.

PRAYER LIST

Tom Grady; Tom Ridenhour; Noah Clifton; Angie Buchanan; Jo Eng; Sheril Rominger (friend of the Marlow's); Linda Jones (family members of Barbara & Dale Merrell); Bruce Coffey (friend of Mark Murphy); Tim Gibson (friend of Deb Black); Annaleah, Michael, & Preston Morrow (friends of Shannon Nesbit); Karey Conrad (friend of Dee Pieschel).

SEPTEMBER COUNCIL SUMMARY

The Council had a productive and busy session this month. Dr. Kevin Estes was approved as the new Director of Music Ministries and Organist. In preparation for the upcoming Congregational Meeting on November 17, Council focused on finalizing the 2025 budget and securing candidates for leadership positions. Additionally, Council reviewed its officer election process and began drafting a stewardship brochure to better communicate budget needs to the congregation. Efforts also continued to determine the most effective ways to address the needs of our children and youth ministries.

YOUTH GROUP CALENDAR

We are excited to announce that Mike Holt will be assisting in leading Youth Group this year for students in 6th grade and above. We invite you to mark your calendars for **Sunday, October 13th**, as we kick off our first Youth Group gathering. For a tentative schedule of the school year, please visit: <https://sjnc.net/youth-calendar>. If you are a youth ready for Confirmation, we encourage you to join us for Youth Group, where we will be discussing the Confirmation calendar.