ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Lector: Margaret Garrison
Communion Assistant: Elizabeth Hurley
Ushers: Wendell Overby, Frank Irvin,
Tony Folino, Nick Lovelace, Jason Pittard
Videographer: Jason Pittard
Greeter: Jean Beasley
Building Supervisor: Wendell Overby

PRAYER LIST

Chip Allman (friend of the Marlow family); Cecil Berry (friend of Gretchen Walker); Family of Patsy Black; Angie Buchanan; Mike & Debbie Cagle (friends of Robert & Debbie Davis); Jay Clemmer; 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 Marlows); Ginger Gibbs (Friend of Jeff & Deedee Gilbert); Nancy Haney (loved one of Betsy Ballard); Ryan Hardister (son of Bill & Reggie Hardister); Linda Hartsell; Samantha Hillegass; Maureen Hollmeyer; 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); Ron Lee (neighbor of Kathryn Radcliffe); Leonard "Buddy" McEachern; Jimmy Clark Marlow, Jr. (son of Lois Marlow); Barbara Merrell; Deb & Roger Myers (friends of Deb Black); Ruthie O'Brien (friend of the Marlow Family); Dave Olsen (friend of Patsy Black); Mason Overby; Stan Parnell (friend of Rob & Debbie Davis); Al Pieschel; Luke Roloff and Caroline & Henry (family of the late Elizabeth Roloff, Margaret Garrison's niece); Lori Ruff (mother of Christine Ruff); Jessica Seeley (cousin of Christine Ruff); Robert Shinn; Doris Smith; Glenda Steel (friend of Jeff & Deedee Gilbert); Bobbi Talbert (friend of Dale & Barbara Merrell); Ruby Tyer (niece of Beth Huss' friend); John Walker; Mr. & Mrs. Jim Weisel.

To assist in your offering
Secure Online Giving

Open Camera – Scan QR Code
Thank you for supporting St. James

The Festival of All the Saints
November 1, 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

Nov. 1 – Juanita Fitts
Nov. 2 – Mary Elizabeth Stewart, Patricia Weisel
Nov. 3 – Kerri Kiker
Nov. 4 – David Klein
Nov. 5 – Debbie Wilkinson
Nov. 6 – Ed Ballard, Sr.

CHURCH CALENDAR THIS WEEK

Sunday, Nov. 1	*Salvation Army Meal Week*	
	9:00am	Choir
	9:00am	Adult Sunday School
	9:30am	Children's Sunday School
	10:00am	Worship
Monday, Nov. 2	10:30am	Quilting
Tuesday, Nov. 3	10:30am	Mary Magdalene Circle
	6:00pm	Executive Committee
Thursday, Nov. 5	6:30pm	Choir
	7:30pm	Carols by Candlelight Rehearsals
Sunday, Nov. 8	9:00am	Choir
	9:00am	Adult Sunday School
	9:30am	Children's Sunday School
	10:00am	Worship

SALVATION ARMY MEAL MINISTRY-THIS WEEK

St. James is providing meals for the Salvation Army this week, **November 1–7**, and we still have volunteer opportunities available.
Meal expenses can be reimbursed through Jill Irvin.
Contact Chip Popovici with questions.
Scan QR code to sign up!

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 Adagio (from Sonata II) Felix Mendelssohn

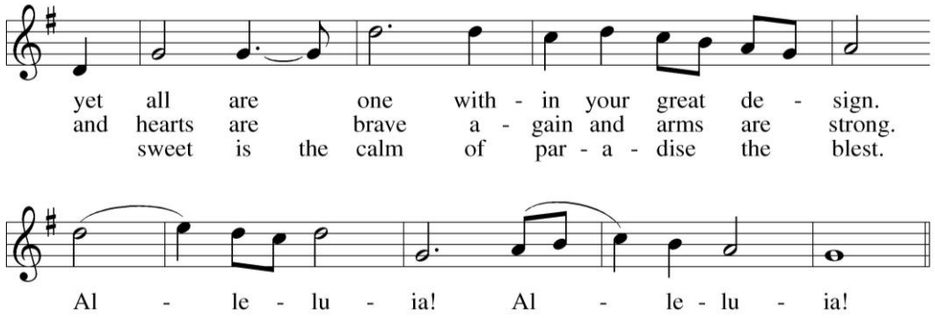
Please stand.
THE INVOCATION

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

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

THE ENTRANCE HYMN: #174 For All the Saints



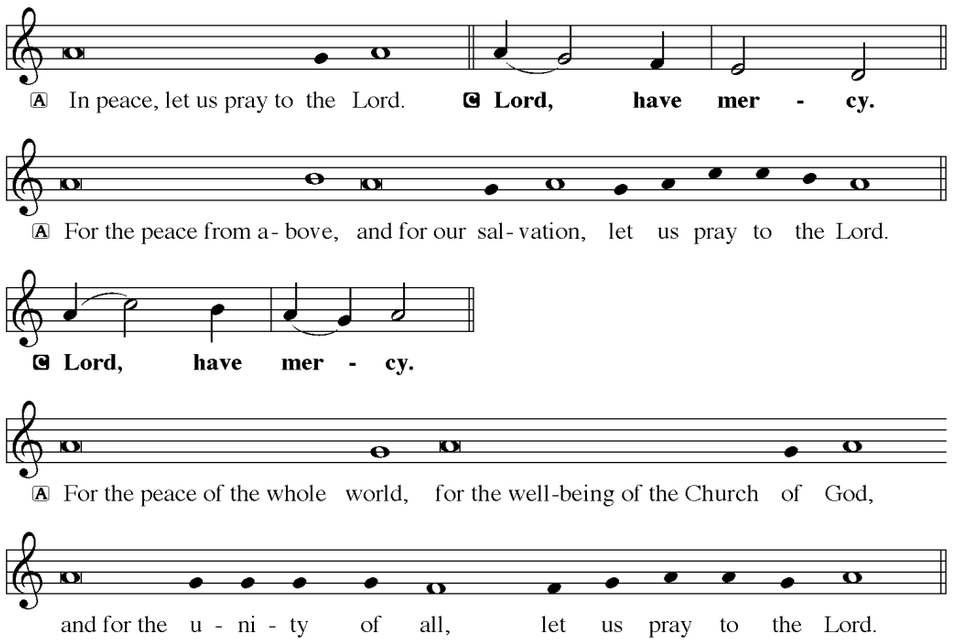


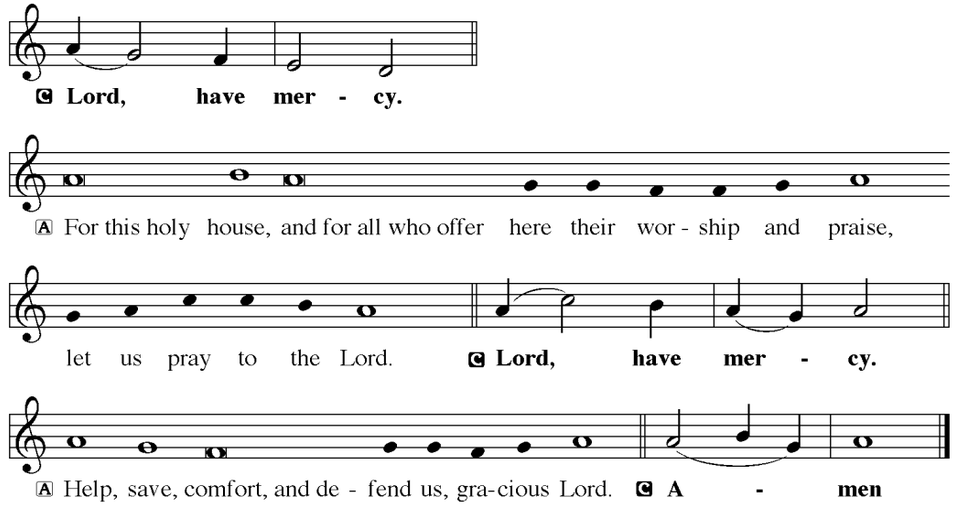
THE APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

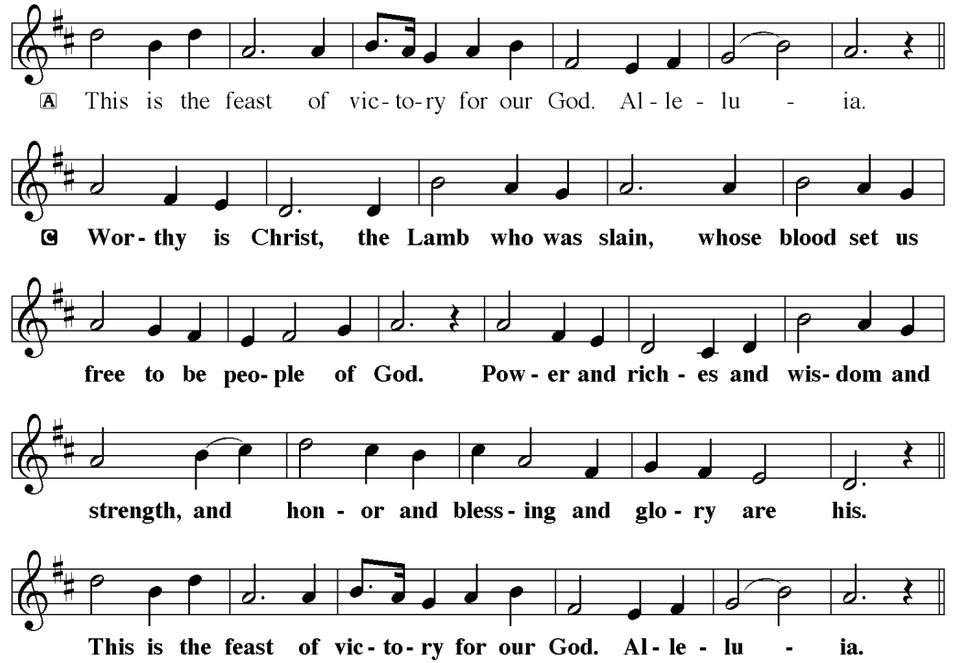
C And also with you.

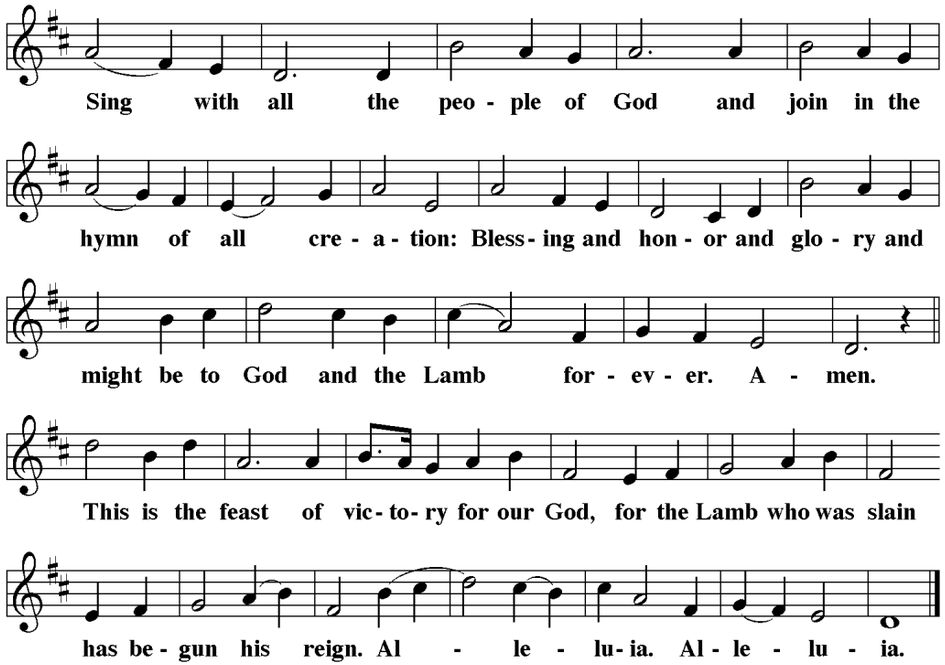
THE KYRIE





THE HYMN OF PRAISE





THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Almighty God, whose people are knit together in one holy Church, the body of Christ our Lord: Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen



Please sit.

THE FIRST READING: Revelation 7:9-17

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count,
from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the
throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands.
10 They cried out in a loud voice, saying,
'Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!'
11 And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the
four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped
God, 12 singing,
'Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honour
and power and might
be to our God for ever and ever! Amen.'
13 Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, 'Who are these, robed in white,
and where have they come from?' 14 I said to him, 'Sir, you are the one that knows.'
Then he said to me, 'These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have
washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.
15 For this reason they are before the throne of God,
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.
16 They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat;
17 for the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.'

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

THE SECOND READING: I John 3:1-3

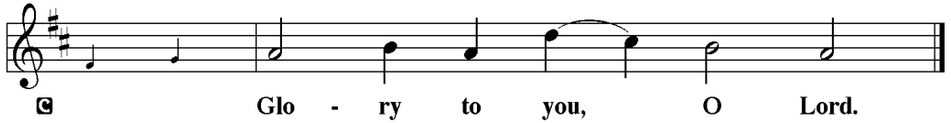
See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God;
and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know
him. 2 Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed.
What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him
as he is. 3 And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

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

Please stand.
THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



THE GOSPEL
P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 5th chapter.



When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. 2 Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

3 'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

4 'Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

5 'Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

6 'Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

7 'Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

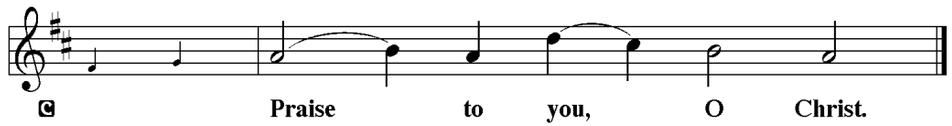
8 'Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

9 'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

10 'Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

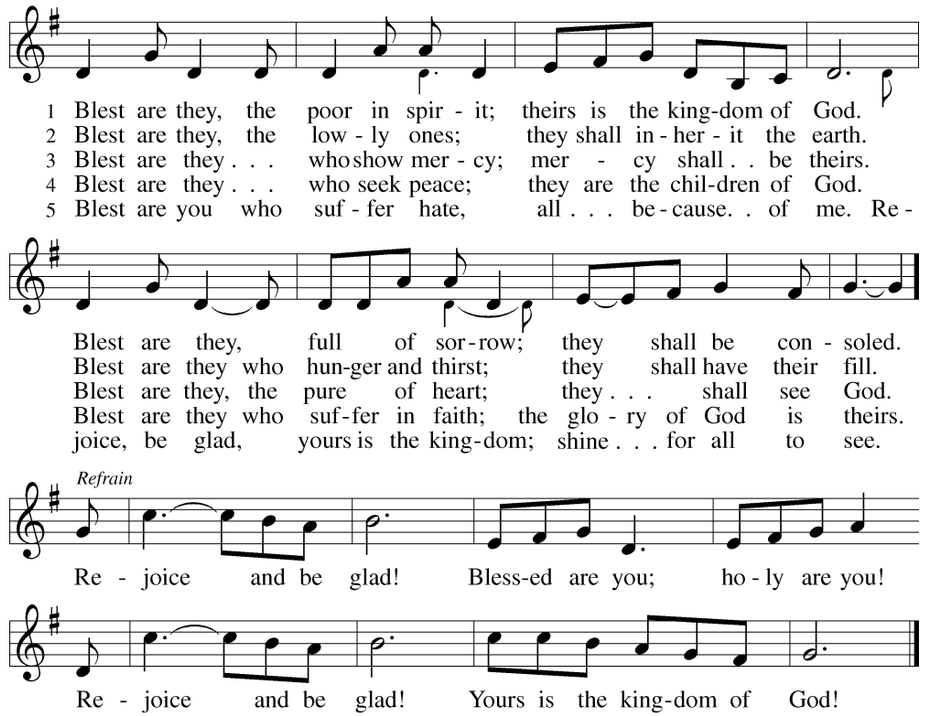
11 'Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. 12 Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

P The Gospel of the Lord.



Please sit.
THE SERMON

Please stand.
THE HYMN OF THE DAY: Blest Are They



THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate
from the virgin Mary, and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Please sit or kneel, as able.

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that your church gathered around Word and Sacrament, may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

REMEMBRANCE of the FAITHFUL DEPARTED

P We give thanks for the faithful witness of all your saints who now rest from their labors and dwell in your eternal light. With affection and love we remember those dear to us who have died. As we light these candles that shine with the light of your love and unfailing promises, we give you thanks for the lives of those saints who have entered the Church Triumphant during the past year. Especially we remember:

As the names of those who entered the church triumphant since last All Saints Sunday are read, a chime is tolled and a candle is lit.

Patrica Black
William Fisher
Thomas Grady
George Patterson
Thomas Ridenhour
Randy Robbins
Jill Strahl

The congregation sits.
Those who desire, may come forward to light a candle.
*At the conclusion, the congregation **stands**.*

P Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses. Strengthen us to run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. **Amen.**

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

Please stand.

THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

Please sit.

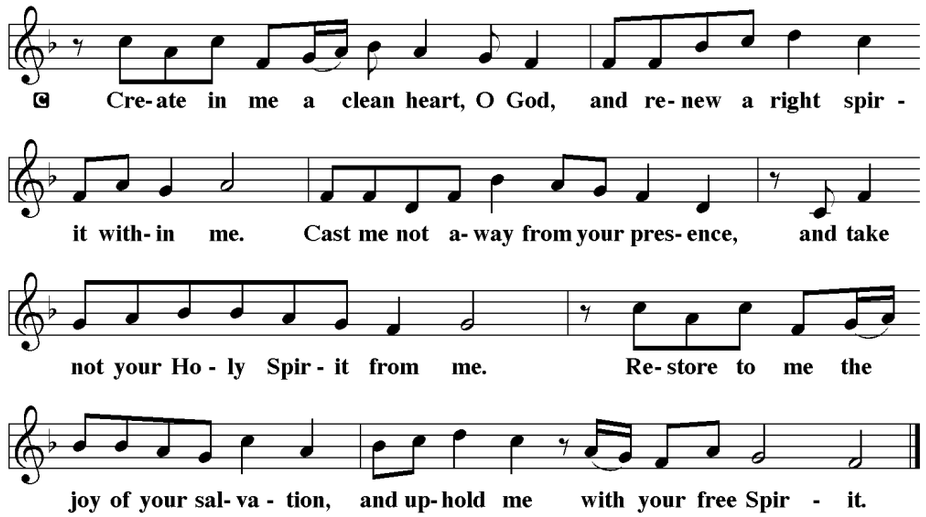
THE OFFERING

THE ANTHEM Blessed Are the Men who Fear God (from Elijah) F. Mendelssohn

Blessed are the men who fear God, they ever walk in the ways of peace.
Through darkness riseth light to the upright.
God is gracious, compassionate.
-Psalms 128:1, 112:4

Please stand.

THE OFFERTORY



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

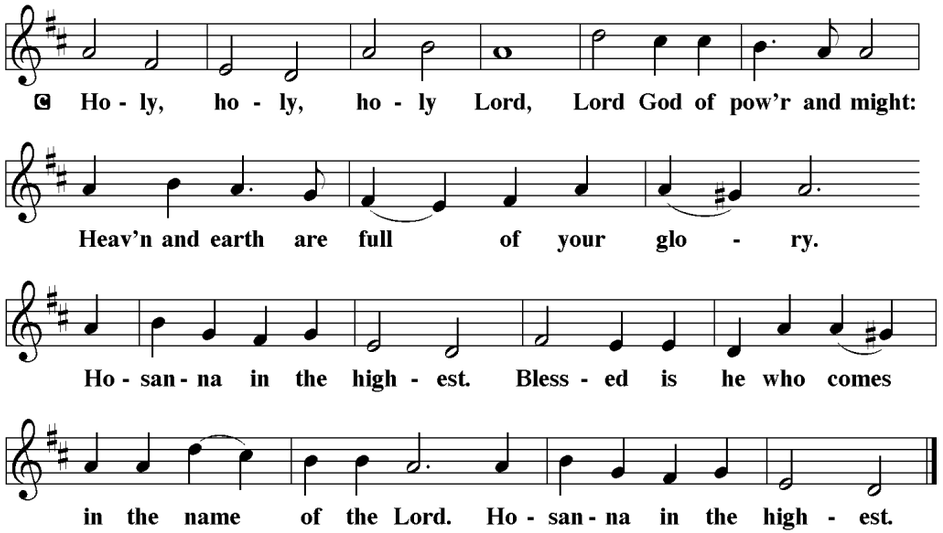


THE COMMUNION RITE

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.
In the blessedness of your saints
you have given us a glorious pledge of the hope of our calling;
that, moved by their witness and supported by their fellowship,
we may run with perseverance the race that is set before us
and with them receive the unfading crown of glory.
And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



P Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father:
Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign.
You have filled all creation with light and life;
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Through Abraham you promised to bless all nations.
You rescued Israel, your chosen people.
Through the prophets you renewed your promise;
and, at this end of all the ages, you sent your Son,
who in words and deeds proclaimed your kingdom
and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

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.

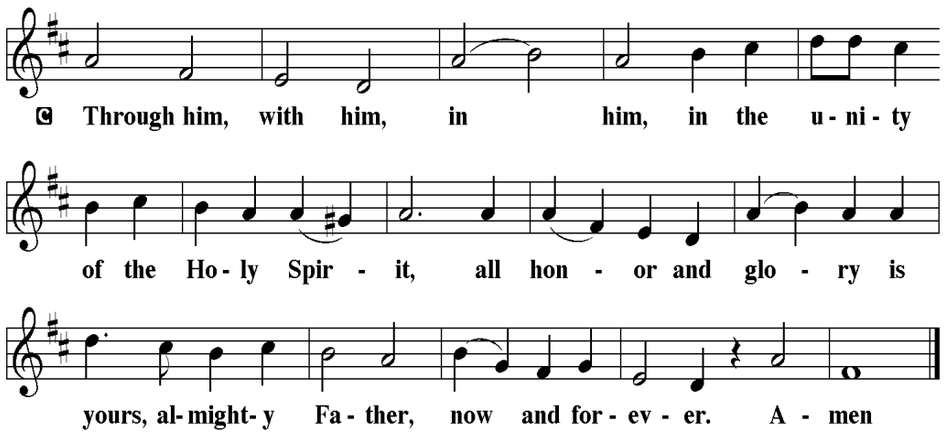
For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.
C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P Therefore, gracious Father, with this bread and cup
we remember the life our Lord offered for us.
And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power
to share with us the great and promised feast.
C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit,
the spirit of our Lord and of his resurrection,
that we who receive the Lord's body and blood
may live to the praise of your glory
and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.
C Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

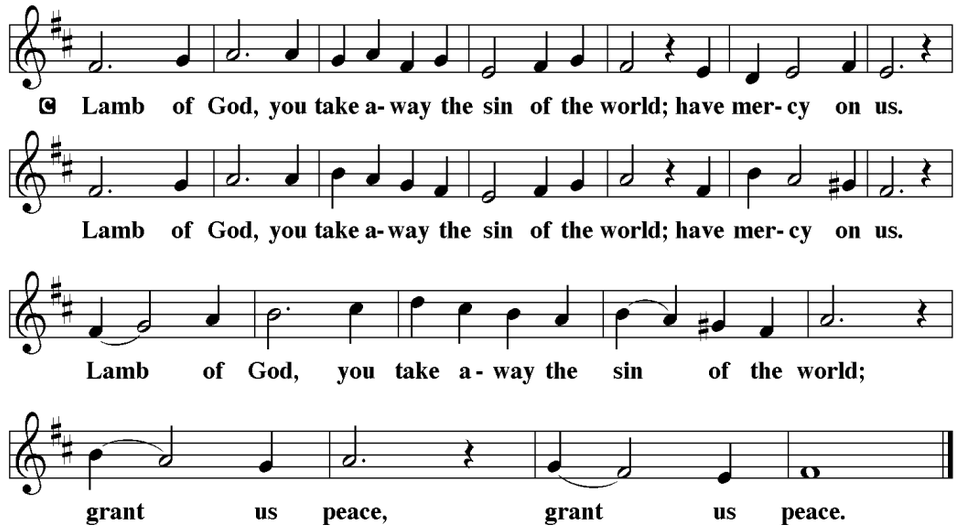
P Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place,

and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all.



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.



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.

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



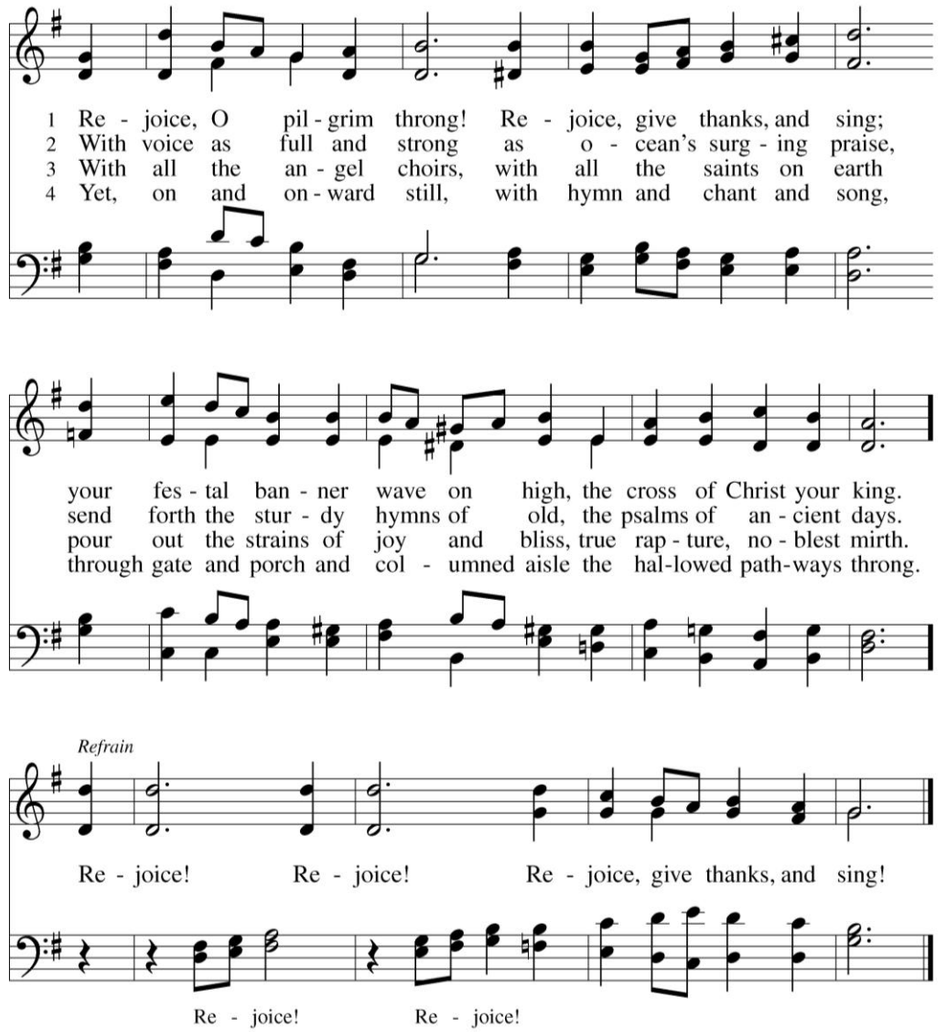
THE BENEDICTION

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

C Amen

THE SENDING HYMN: #553 Rejoice, O Pilgrim Throng

Please see next page.



THE DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Allegro maestoso (from Sonata II) Felix Mendelssohn

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CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT – DEC. 11 & 12

Save the dates and plan to join us on Friday, December 11, and Saturday, December 12, at 7 p.m. for a congregational sing-along tradition featuring full orchestra, choirs, and organ! Contact Kevin Estes (kevin@sjnc.net) for more information.

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**

BUDGET Q&A SESSION – NOV. 15

There will be a Budget Q&A Session (ahead of the Congregational Meeting) on Sunday, Nov. 15 at 9am in the Fellowship Hall.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – NOV. 22

On Sunday, Nov. 22, following worship, we will have a potluck congregational meeting to approve the proposed 2027 budget, hold the Council election, and review a proposed bylaw addition. Please plan to attend.

The Nominating Committee reports that four voting members of St. James Lutheran Church will stand for election to a three-year term of service on Church Council. In alphabetical order they are:

Ashley Cline
LeeAnn Miller
Laura Overby
Annette Propst

Four seats will be elected. In addition to these four nominees, any voting member may nominate a voting member to stand for election. Please complete a nomination form from the office and return it by Sunday, Nov. 8.

Glenda Poole and Mike Rinker will conclude their term of service on December 31. 2026. Ashley Cline and Annette Propst are standing for election to a second three-year term.

ADVENT ACTIVITIES – NOV. 29

Join us Sunday, Nov. 29, at 11:00 a.m. (after worship) as we begin the Advent season with a time of fellowship and preparation. We'll have lunch, make ornaments, and decorate the Fellowship Hall tree. All ages welcome!

BETHLEHEM AT THE FARM – DEC. 6

Sunday, December 6 | 3:00–5:00 p.m. | Far Fetched Farm (835 Brafford Dr., Concord)

Help bring the Christmas story to life with a marketplace, shepherds, Mary and Joseph, live animals, and more! About 50 volunteers are needed to make this St. James tradition possible. There are many roles available, and costumes are provided.