

THE CHILDREN’S SERMON

First Reading: Jeremiah 15:15-21

¹⁵O LORD, you know; remember me and visit me, and take vengeance for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance take me not away; know that for your sake I bear reproach. ¹⁶Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart, for I am called by your name, O LORD, God of hosts. ¹⁷I did not sit in the company of revelers, nor did I rejoice; I sat alone, because your hand was upon me, for you had filled me with indignation. ¹⁸Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Will you be to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail? ¹⁹Therefore thus says the LORD: “If you return, I will restore you, and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless, you shall be as my mouth. They shall turn to you, but you shall not turn to them. ²⁰And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, declares the LORD. ²¹I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.”

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 26

¹Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived | with integrity,*
I have trusted in the Lord and | have not faltered.

²Test me, O | LORD, and try me;*
examine my heart | and my mind.

³For your love is be- | fore my eyes,*
I have walked faith- | fully with you.

⁴I have not sat | with the worthless,*
nor do I consort with | the deceitful.

⁵I have hated the company of | evildoers;*
I will not sit down | with the wicked.

⁶I will wash my hands in inno- | cence, O LORD,*
that I may go in procession | round your altar,

⁷Singing aloud a song | of thanksgiving*
and recounting all your won- | derful deeds.

⁸ LORD, I love the house in | which you dwell*
and the place where your glo- | ry abides.

⁹Do not sweep me a- | way with sinners,*
nor my life with those who | thirst for blood,

¹⁰Whose hands are full of | evil plots,*
and their right hand | full of bribes.

¹¹As for me, I will live | with integrity,*
redeem me, O LORD, and have pit- | y on me.

¹²My foot stands on | level ground;*
in the full assembly I will | bless the LORD.

Second Reading: Romans 12:9-21

⁹Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. ¹⁰Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospi- tality. ¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight. ¹⁷Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. ¹⁸If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the LORD.” ²⁰To the contrary, “if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.” ²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ALLELUIA), PG 62-63

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the Sixteenth chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 16:21-28

²¹Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. ²²And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “Far be it from you, Lord! This shall never happen to you.” ²³But he turned and said to Peter, “Get be- hind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.” ²⁴Then Jesus told his disciples, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. ²⁵For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. ²⁶For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul? ²⁷For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done. ²⁸Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON: PASTOR KEN REED

*HYMN: LBW 507 “HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION”

APOSTLES’ CREED, PG 65

*THE PRAYERS, PG 65

*SHARING OF THE PEACE, PG 66

OFFERING

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Let us pray. 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.

C: Amen.

*LORD'S PRAYER, PG 71

*BENEDICTION, PG 74

*HYMN: INSERT "YOU WHO DWELL IN THE SHELTER OF THE LORD"

**Silent Reflection as the candles are extinguished*

DISMISSAL

Go in peace and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

*The **Altar Flowers** are given to the Glory of God,
And in Honor of Our Granddaughters
Raegan Black and Madison Burgess Birthdays
Given by:
Clint and Robin Burgess*

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Secretary: Sherrie McKean, (Mon. - Fri. 9:00 am - 1:00 pm)

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Music Director: Kristy Painter

Acolyte: Peggy Hernandez

Crucifier: Victor Paquin

Lay Reader Coordinator: Sharon Sipe

Greeters: Natalie & Chase Arndt

Ushers: Mickey & Connie Bell, Betty Hawn, David Arndt

Communion Assistants: Wesley Stinson, Margie Moose

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ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH

1942 St. James Church Road

Newton, NC 28658

Attendance last Sunday:

Worship: 66

Sunday School: 25

Last Week Giving: \$ 4,027.89

Year to Date Giving: \$192,668.48

Weekly Budget Amount: \$ 5,965.25

Year to Date Budget: \$202,818.50



St. James Lutheran Church
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 30, 2026

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (*) congregation stands

PRELUDE

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone.

Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your Word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,

C: Amen

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

P: Gracious God,

C: Have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

P: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

C: Amen

*HYMN: LBW 501 "HE LEADTH ME: OH, BLESSED THOUGHT!"

*APOSTOLIC GREETING, KYRIE, PG 57-58

*HYMN OF PRAISE ("GLORY TO GOD"), PG 58

*THE PRAYER OF THE DAY:

God of all creation, you reach out to call people of all nations to your kingdom. As you gather disciples from near and far, count us also among those who boldly confess your Son Jesus Christ as Lord.

Amen.