

February 24 am

St. James Lutheran Church in St. Jacobs

Isaiah 55: 6-11

A reading from Isaiah.

⁶Seek the LORD while he may be found,
call upon him while he is near;

⁷let the wicked forsake their way,
and the unrighteous their thoughts;
let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on
them,

and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

⁸For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.

⁹For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

¹⁰For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven,
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,

¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

1 Cor 3: 9-17

A reading from 1 Cor.

⁹For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

¹⁰According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building on it. Each builder must choose with care how to build on it. ¹¹For no one can lay any foundation other than the one that has been laid; that foundation is Jesus Christ. ¹²Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw — ¹³the work of each builder will become visible, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each has done. ¹⁴If what has been built on the foundation survives, the builder will receive a reward. ¹⁵If the work is burned up, the builder will suffer loss; the builder will be saved, but only as through fire.

¹⁶Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? ¹⁷If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy that person. For God's temple is holy, and you are that temple.

John 16: 23b-30

A reading from John. ²³

Jesus said,
On that day you will ask nothing of me.
Very truly, I tell you, if you ask anything of the Father in my name, he will give it to you. ²⁴

Until now you have not asked for anything in my name.

Ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be complete.

²⁵I have said these things to you in figures of speech. The hour is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figures, but will tell you plainly of the Father. ²⁶ On that day you will ask in my name.

I do not say to you that I will ask the Father on your behalf; ²⁷

for the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God. ²⁸

I came from the Father and have come into the world; again, I am leaving the world and am going to the Father."

²⁹His disciples said, "Yes, now you are speaking plainly, not in any figure of speech! ³⁰

Now we know that you know all things, and do not need to have anyone question you; by this we believe that you came from God."