

# ***Fifth Sunday after Pentecost***

July 13th, 2025



**Divine Service 9am**

**St. James Lutheran Church**

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Phillipsburg, NJ

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Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
in America

# Welcome to St. James!

Founded in 1750, the year 2025 marks our 275<sup>th</sup> anniversary of being God's church. We're so glad you're here! We pray you feel warmly welcomed as we gather to celebrate God's unconditional love in Jesus Christ. He who is the same, yesterday, today, and forever!

**If you are visiting today:** Thank you for joining us today! If you have any questions, please ask! Pastor Levi and the members of our church-community would be glad to help you out. Please sign the guest book or complete a hospitality card located in the pew racks.

**Following along in the bulletin:** \*indicates the congregation stands. In our liturgical worship, **bold words** are spoken by the congregation. LBW refers to content found in the green hymnbook *Lutheran Book of Worship*. WOV refers to content found in the blue hymnbook *With One Voice*.

Presiding Minister  
Assisting Minister  
Musician

The Rev. Levi Q. Powers  
Polly Newbold  
Dave Miller

## I. GATHERING

### \*CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

In the name of the Father and of the ✙ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

The Sun of righteousness shall rise with shining beams of healing. Let us gather under the wings of God's mercy.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

Gracious God,

**we acknowledge that we are sinners and we confess our sins—those known to us that burden our hearts, and those unknown to us but seen by you. We know that before you nothing remains hidden, and in you everything is revealed. Free us from the slavery of sin; liberate us from the bondage of guilt; work in us that which is pleasing in your sight; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

From the house of David, God raised up a mighty Savior.

**Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, who comes to set us free.**

Remembering the covenant, God delivered us from our enemies.

**Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, who comes to set us free.**

Before God we are holy and righteous, free to worship without fear.

**Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, who comes to set us free.**

With a heart full of mercy and compassion, God saves you and forgives you all our sins. Christ, the dawn from on high, shines upon you, and by the light of the Holy Spirit guides your feet into the way of peace.

**Amen.**

**\*GATHERING HYMN: LBW 419 – Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace**

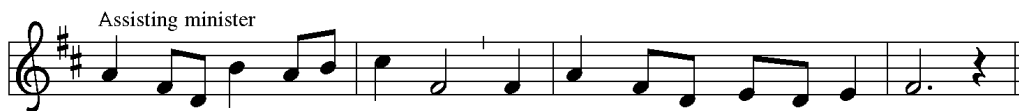
**\*GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,

And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**\*GLORY TO GOD**



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

### **\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Prayer concludes: **Amen.**

## **II. WORD**

### **FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 30:9-14**

*A reading from Deuteronomy.*

<sup>9</sup>and the Lord your God will make you abundantly prosperous in all your undertakings, in the fruit of your body, in the fruit of your livestock, and in the fruit of your soil. For the Lord will again take delight in prospering you, just as he delighted

in prospering your ancestors, <sup>10</sup> when you obey the Lord your God by observing his commandments and decrees that are written in this book of the law, because you turn to the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

<sup>11</sup> “Surely, this commandment that I am commanding you today is not too hard for you, nor is it too far away. <sup>12</sup> It is not in heaven, that you should say, ‘Who will go up to heaven for us and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?’ <sup>13</sup> Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, ‘Who will cross to the other side of the sea for us and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?’ <sup>14</sup> No, the word is very near to you; it is in your mouth and in your heart for you to observe.

*The word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM 25:1-10**

*The Psalm is read responsively.*

<sup>1</sup> To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

<sup>2</sup> **O my God, in you I trust;  
do not let me be put to shame;  
do not let my enemies exult over me.**

<sup>3</sup> Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame;  
let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

<sup>4</sup> **Make me to know your ways, O Lord;  
teach me your paths.**

<sup>5</sup> Lead me in your truth and teach me,  
for you are the God of my salvation;  
for you I wait all day long.

<sup>6</sup> **Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love,  
for they have been from of old.**

<sup>7</sup> Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions;  
according to your steadfast love remember me,  
for the sake of your goodness, O Lord!

<sup>8</sup> **Good and upright is the Lord;  
therefore he instructs sinners in the way.**

<sup>9</sup> He leads the humble in what is right  
and teaches the humble his way.

<sup>10</sup> **All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness,  
for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.**

## SECOND READING: Colossians 1:1-14

*A reading from Colossians.*

<sup>1</sup> Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,

<sup>2</sup> To the saints and faithful brothers and sisters in Christ in Colossae:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

<sup>3</sup> In our prayers for you we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>4</sup> for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, <sup>5</sup> because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth, the gospel <sup>6</sup> that has come to you. Just as it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world, so it has been bearing fruit among yourselves from the day you heard it and truly comprehended the grace of God. <sup>7</sup> This you learned from Epaphras, our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on our behalf, <sup>8</sup> and he has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

<sup>9</sup> For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, <sup>10</sup> so that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God. <sup>11</sup> May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully <sup>12</sup> giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. <sup>13</sup> He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, <sup>14</sup> in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

*The word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

### \*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.

## **GOSPEL READING: Luke 10:25-37**

*The holy gospel according to St. Luke.*

### **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>25</sup> An expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he said, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” <sup>26</sup> He said to him, “What is written in the law? What do you read there?” <sup>27</sup> He answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and your neighbor as yourself.” <sup>28</sup> And he said to him, “You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.”

<sup>29</sup> But wanting to vindicate himself, he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” <sup>30</sup> Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and took off, leaving him half dead. <sup>31</sup> Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. <sup>32</sup> So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. <sup>33</sup> But a Samaritan while traveling came upon him, and when he saw him he was moved with compassion. <sup>34</sup> He went to him and bandaged his wounds, treating them with oil and wine. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. <sup>35</sup> The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, ‘Take care of him, and when I come back I will repay you whatever more you spend.’ <sup>36</sup> Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?” <sup>37</sup> He said, “The one who showed him mercy.” Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.”

*The gospel of the Lord.*

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

## **SERMON**

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY: LBW 551 – Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee**

### **\*APOSTLES’ CREED**

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
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,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come 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.

### **\*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Each petition ends: "...God of grace. **Hear our prayer.**"

Prayers conclude: "Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior." **Amen.**

### **\*Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say,  
"Peace be with you," or similar words.  
The assembly is seated.*

## **III. THE LORD'S SUPPER**

### **OFFERTORY**



*Scan the QR Code to give electronically.  
An offering plate is in the back of the  
sanctuary if you wish to give check or  
cash. You are welcome to give to the  
ministry of St. James Lutheran Church  
freely and spontaneously. There is no  
guilt or shame. If you do give, give with  
a cheerful heart.*

**\*OFFERING VERSE: ELW 184 – Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful**



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of

bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that

we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of

all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble

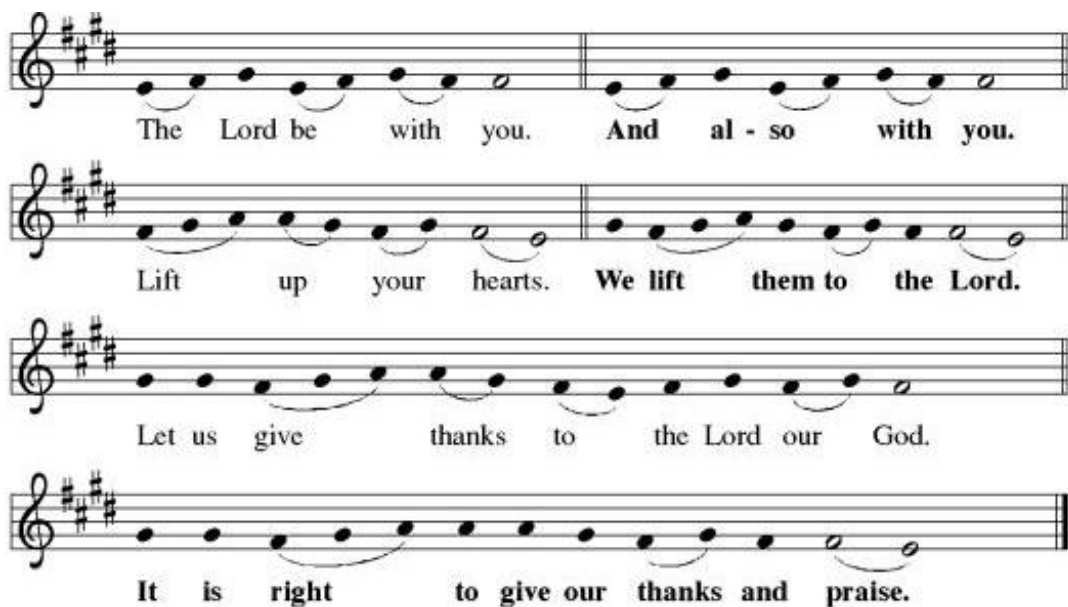
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

### **\*OFFERING PRAYER**

Prayer concludes: **Amen.**

### **\*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

*Together with the bread and the cup we receive the body and the blood of Christ. We invite all baptized Christians to this sacrament. Children and adults who do not yet receive Holy Communion are invited to come forward with arms folded for a blessing. If you need communion brought to you, please let an usher know. We commune in tables of 10-15 people. The pastor will give you the bread, an assistant will give you a cup. Then two will come to pour into your cup-the first with grape juice, the second with wine. Whoever partakes receives orally the body and blood of Jesus Christ.*



It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...**Here the minister continues with the preface for the day, concluding:** ...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



### **\*THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

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**

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.

### **\*INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

#### **COMMUNION**

*When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say*  
The body of Christ, given for you.  
The blood of Christ, shed for you.  
*and each person may respond*  
Amen.

## LAMB OF GOD



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.

## \*POST COMMUNION SONG: ELW 205 – Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re-joyce and bear Christ's ho - ly name.



Send us with your prom-is-es, O God, and lead us forth in



joy with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia.

### **\*POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

Prayer concludes: **Amen.**

## **IV. SENDING**

### **\*BLESSING**

Prayer concludes: **Amen.**

**\*SENDING SONG: LBW 433 – The Church of Christ, in Every Age**

### **\*DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Social Ministry is collecting food, lap blankets(30"x36") for the local food pantry, as well as for veteran's needs-please leave donations in lobby.

Social Ministry School supply collection starts June 29 thru July 27.

- **Monday 7/14: Reading the Bible** with Pastor Levi – 4pm at the church
- **Wednesday 7/16: Fellowship** at Sharky's 4pm-6pm
- **Reminder:** August 2 Country Breakfast 7am-10am

## **UPCOMING**

**Social Ministry:** Next meeting is Tuesday, September 9 at 10am at church. New Members are always welcome!

Let us remember in prayer: Jeff, Mae, Eddie, Jeffrey, Debbie, Stacey, Kevin, Brian, Pam, Sara, Bob, Patrick, John, Judy, Gary, Sharon and those unable to attend church service; Janet, Janice, Greg, Helen, Alayne and Elsie.