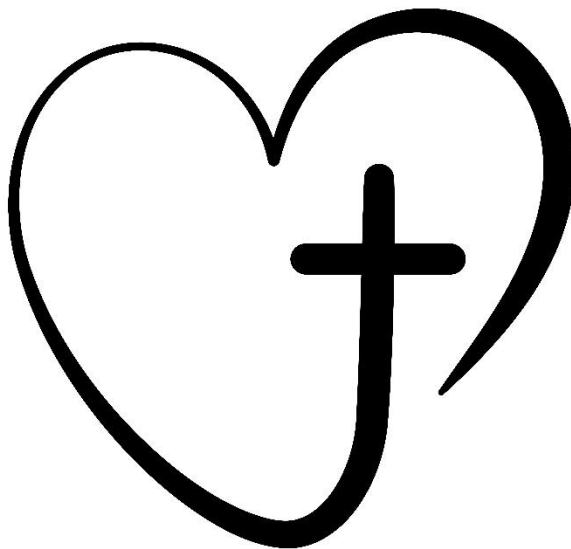


***Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost***  
**August 9, 2026**



**Divine Service 9am**

**St. James Lutheran Church**  
1213 US Hwy 22  
Phillipsburg, NJ

908.454.2864

[www.strawchurch.com](http://www.strawchurch.com)

[strawchurch@gmail.com](mailto:strawchurch@gmail.com)



Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
in America



# Welcome to St. James!

Founded in 1750, the year 2025 celebrated 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.

**To the parents of our younger children please:**

Sit towards the front so the little ones can see and hear all that is going on and quietly explain parts of the service and what pastor, ushers, etc. are doing. Don't sweat the small stuff-God gave your littles the wiggle, noise and energy they have and we don't want to suppress that in God's house! Children are always welcome here! If you feel as if you need to step out of the service with your child, feel free but please come back. As Jesus said, "Let the children come to me."

To the members of our church please:

Welcome children and their parents-their presence is a sign our congregation is growing and a gift to us all.

**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

*The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

In the name of the Father,  
and of the ✝ Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Gracious God,  
**have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all our sins. As a called and ordained servant of the church of Christ, and by Christ's authority alone, I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## \*GATHERING HYMN: WOV 780 - What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine

## \*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.**

## CANTICLE OF PRAISE: 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: 1 Kings 19:9-18**

*A reading from 1 Kings.*

<sup>9</sup> At [Horeb, the mount of God,][Elijah] came to a cave and spent the night there.

Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" <sup>10</sup> He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts, for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."

<sup>11</sup> He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind, and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake, <sup>12</sup> and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire, and after the fire a gentle whisper. <sup>13</sup> When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" <sup>14</sup> He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts, for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away." <sup>15</sup> Then the LORD said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. <sup>16</sup> Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel, and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. <sup>17</sup> Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill, and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. <sup>18</sup> Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him."

*The word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM: Psalm 85:8-13

<sup>8</sup> I will listen to what the LORD God is saying;  
for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to you.

<sup>9</sup> **Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you,  
that your glory may dwell in our land.**

<sup>10</sup> Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together;  
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

<sup>11</sup> **Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth,  
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**

<sup>12</sup> The LORD will indeed grant prosperity,  
and our land will yield its increase.

<sup>13</sup> **Righteousness shall go before the LORD  
and shall prepare for God a pathway.**

## SECOND READING: Romans 10:5-17

*A reading from Romans.*

<sup>5</sup> Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that “the person who does these things will live by them.” <sup>6</sup> But the righteousness that comes from faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ down) <sup>7</sup> “or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). <sup>8</sup> But what does it say?

“The word is near you,  
in your mouth and in your heart”

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim), <sup>9</sup> because if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup> For one believes with the heart, leading to righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth, leading to salvation. <sup>11</sup> The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” <sup>12</sup> For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. <sup>13</sup> For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

<sup>14</sup> But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? <sup>15</sup> And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!” <sup>16</sup> But not all have obeyed the good news, for Isaiah says, “Lord, who has

believed our message?" <sup>17</sup> So faith comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes through the word of Christ.

*The word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

### **\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**





## SERMON

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY: WOV 781 - My Life Flows on in Endless Song**

### 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: "...Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**"

Prayers conclude: **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 465 – As the Grains of Wheat

*Refrain*

As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were  
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from  
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,  
2 Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when

*Refrain*

may we share the pres - ence of your love.  
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

## \*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.*

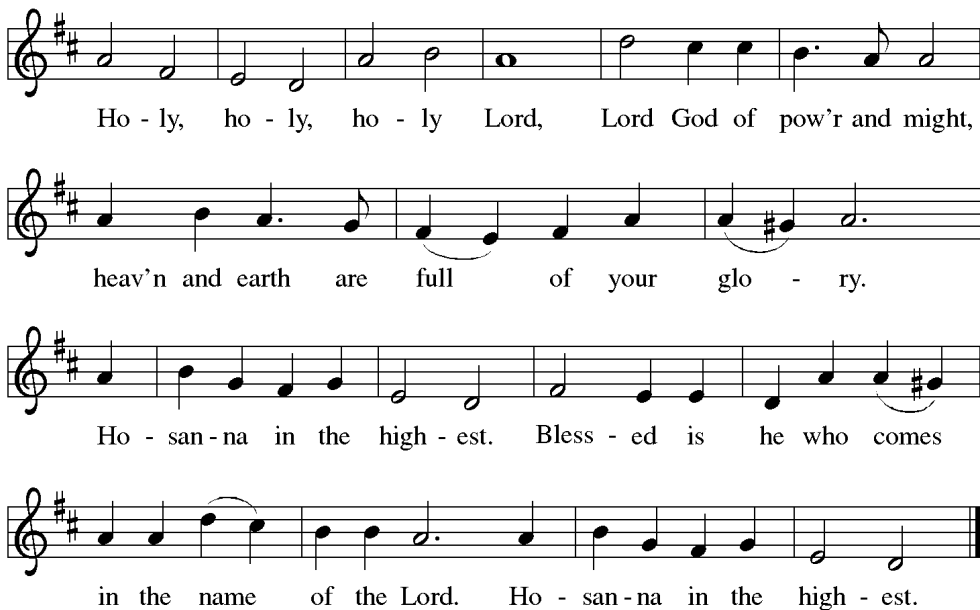
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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:



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.

### **\*THE WORDS OF GIFT**

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 testament 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 200 – Now, Lord**

Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in  
peace: your word has been ful - filled. My  
own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre -  
pared in the sight of all peo-ple: a light to re -

veal you to the na-tions and the glo-ry of your

peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry to the Fa - ther,

and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it,

as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and

will be for - ev - er. A - men.

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

Prayer concludes: **Amen.**

## **IV. SENDING**

### **\*BLESSING**

Prayer concludes: **Amen.**

### **\*SENDING SONG: ACS 1097 - Ten Thousand Reasons**

*Refrain*

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul;  
wor-ship his ho - ly name. Sing like nev - er be-fore,  
O my soul; I'll wor-ship your ho - ly name.

1 The sun comes up, it's a new day dawn-ing;  
2 You're rich in love, and you're slow to an - ger. Your  
3 And on that day when my strength is fail - ing, the

. . . it's time to sing your song a - gain. What - ev - er may  
name . . is . . . great, and your heart is kind. For all . . your  
end . . draws near, and my time has come; . . . still, my

pass, and what - ev - er lies be - fore me, let me be  
good-ness, I will keep . . on . . sing - ing— ten thou-sand  
soul will sing your praise un - end - ing— ten thou-sand

*Refrain*

sing - ing when the eve - ning comes.  
rea - sons for my heart to find.  
years and then for - ev - er - more!

# **\*DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

**Thanks be to God**



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **Sunday, 8/9:** "Worship: Why Do We Do What We Do?" through Sunday, 9/13. Grab some coffee and join the conversation.
- **Coffee Fellowship** after church every Sunday for those who want to sit and chat.
- **Wednesday, August 12:** Fellowship at Sharky's 4pm-6pm
- **Thursday, August 13:** Bible Study 10am at the church
- **Sunday, August 16:** Outdoor Service at Thomas Stewart Park **at 10AM**, 112 Greenwich St., Stewartsville. Bring a lawn chair. Bring a dish to pass. There will be hot dogs. Invite your friends. Enjoy yourselves.
- **Sunday, September 20: Rally Day** – Help us kick off the Sunday school year with a celebration after church. The theme is Martin Luther who nailed 95 Theses. We will take a collection of hardware for the Habitat for Humanity ReStore at this time. All hardware must be free of damage: Door knob sets – standard and keyed; Cabinets knobs and handles; Nuts, bolts, nails and screws of all types; & Hinges
- **Tuesday, September 8:** Social Ministry meeting 10am at the church.

8 Volunteers needed (10 would be even better!) for Firth Youth Center Back to School Packing Backpacks Tuesday, August 18 from 1pm-3pm. Let Pastor Levi know if interested.

Social Ministry Donation Collections for August: Back to School Breakfast Boost  
Focus items: Instant coffee, Tea, Instant oatmeal, Granola/protein bars  
Today is the last day for school supply collection.

**Worship Helpers:** Joanne Willauer will be coordinating the monthly schedule. Please contact her at 610-393-6317 or [jwillauer@rcn.com](mailto:jwillauer@rcn.com) with your available dates!

**THIS WEEK'S WORSHIP HELPERS(8/9)**

**Usher/Greeter: Don Willauer**

**Lector: Sue Hazelton**

**Altar Guild: Steve Stocker**

**Tellers: Steve Stocker**

**NEXT SUNDAY'S WORSHIP HELPERS(8/16)**

**Usher/Greeter: Bob Agans**

**Lector: Harvey Walters**

**Altar Guild: Barbara & Jim Sikra**

**Tellers: Carol & Lois Steible**

Let us remember in prayer: The Family & Friends of Oscar Benavides Aguilar, The Family & Friends of Henry Wrede, The Family & Friends of Jim Pollard, Dan, Jerry, Keith, Patrick, John, Sara, Gary and those unable to attend church service; Mae, Janet, Janice, Alayne and Elsie.