

WELCOME to St. James Lutheran Church

We ask you to, if you wish,.....

PRINT THE ATTACHED BULLETIN...to follow along with Sunday's Service.
As you are worshipping from home, you are invited to set aside a sacred space for worship.
Light a candle and set out your bread and wine.

Worship Service - Streaming live @ 9:30am or watch later!



Click on image OR
FB Search: Saint James Lutheran Church of Columbus, Montana



Click on image or the link below to be directed to our website:
www.lutheranchurchcolumbusmt.org

****Scroll down to "Click here for the St. James YouTube link"**

A suggestion just for safety:

In this time of Cold, Flu, Covid & other RESPIRATORY health issues, please feel free to wear a mask to church activities and worship. There is **NO** requirement to wear a mask. You do what you feel comfortable with to protect your health and know you are supported in your decision. Donna Zeigler

Come **COMFY**

Grab a cup of **COFFEE** and a **CINNAMON ROLL**

and

join us at **CHURCH** for Worship and **COMMUNION**

As we welcome in **2023**

New Year's Day is a Sunday this year.

What a wonderful way to welcome in the New Year.

Come celebrate with your church family. We tend to say up late on New Year Eve, so, you're welcome to come in your jeans.

Don't worry about your hair or your make-up, feel free to bring your pillow.

You'll be greeted with a cup of coffee and a fresh warm cinnamon roll – which you are welcome to bring to your pew.

Let's ring in 2023 together.

St. James Lutheran Church

205 E 1st Ave. N. Columbus, MT 59019

Leader: Pastor Tonia Fisher (406) 656-9557

Email: toniafisherclarkmt@gmail.com



*Our Mission: "We worship together, grow in faith,
share our faith and serve with the love of God"*

Sunday January 1st, 2023

Welcome, Announcements & Opportunities for Serving

*The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you alland also be with you.*

Call to Worship Hymn: "Amazing Grace"



1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found; was blind, but now I see.
grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Let us stand, as you are able, and prepare our hearts for worship

GATHERING

Happy New Year Litany

P: Start anew and be ready to face the New Year with Your head up

C: Happy New Year!

P: Learn from the past and use it as a tool to state another year without fear.

C: Happy New Year!

P: With God as our Leader, may we be prepared to live another year under God's guidance.

C: Happy New Year

P: Make it a point to start each day of this New Year with a prayer to work wonders

C: Happy New Year

P: Do not be afraid to face life. This New Year has a lot of promises for us. Trust God and everything will be fine.

C: Happy New Year

P: Do not bring with you the memories of the past. Let them serve as your guide to keep moving on your journey

C: Happy New Year

P: God is our strength. Let God be the strong foundation of your life so, we will not stumble when things go bad

C: Happy New Year

Gathering Hymn: "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

Vs 1 A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;
our helper frees us from the flood of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe, forsworn to work us woe,
with guile and dreadful might is armed to wage the fight: on earth there is no equal.

Vs 2 If we in our own strength confide, our striving turns to losing;
the righteous one fights by our side, the one of God's own choosing.
You ask who this may be: Christ Jesus, it is he,
the Lord of hosts by name. No other God we claim! None else can win the battle.

Vs 3 Though all the world with devils fill and threaten to devour us,
we tremble not, we trust God's will: they cannot overpower us.
Though Satan rant and rage, in fiercest war engage,
this tyrant's doomed to fail; God's judgement must prevail! One little word shall triumph.

Vs 4 God's Word shall stand above the powers, shall end all their thanksgiving.
The Spirit and the gifts are ours, for God with us is living.
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;
though all of these be gone, they yet have nothing won. The kingdom's our forever!

Prayer of the Day

Lord of the new year, **help us to live the way we should, as each new day we tread. Give us gentle wisdom, so we might love our neighbors. Give us strength and courage serve those in need. The year ahead is empty, help us to fill it with good things. Thank You for this new year, may we appreciate each day with the joy and happiness it brings. Amen**

WORD

Hear the 1st Reading: Isaiah 42:5-9

⁵Thus says God, the LORD, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread forth the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: ⁶“I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, ⁷to open the eyes which are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. ⁸I am the LORD, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to graven images. ⁹Behold, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.”

Word of Wisdom, Word of God. **THANKS BE TO GOD.**

Read Psalm 65:11 in unison

¹¹**God, You crown the year with Your goodness; Your ways overflow with plenty.**

Hear the 2nd Reading: Ephesians 4:22-24

²²Put off your old nature which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful lusts, ²³and be renewed in the spirit of your minds, ²⁴and put on the new nature, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

Word of Wisdom, Word of God. **THANKS BE TO GOD.**

Please stand, as you are able, to welcome the Gospel

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew: We say: **“Glory to you, O Lord”**

Hear the Reading of the Gospel: Matthew 5:16

¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

The Gospel of the Lord: We say: **“Praise to you, O Christ”**

Sermon: Ring Out, Wild Bells

(In Memoriam, Ring Out, Wild Bells by Alfred Lord Tennyson)

Reflection Hymn: “Canticle of the Turning”

*At this time, you are invited to go forward and light a candle of remembrance
as we take time to reflect on God’s word*



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .
3 From the halls of pow’r to the for - tress tow’r, not a
4 Though the na - tions rage from . . age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
work great . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the
stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
mem - ber who holds us fast: God’s mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
jus - tice tears ev - ’ry ty - rant . . . from his throne.
liv - er us from the con - quer - or’s crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
 The hun - gry poor shall . . weep no more, for the
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
 food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry
 prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
 strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.

Refrain



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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.

Prayers of the People "O Lord, Hear My Prayer"

Lord in your mercy,



O Lord, hear my prayer.....

Amen.



O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: when I call, an - swer me.



O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: come and lis - ten to me.

Passing of the Peace

.....and we say: **and also with you.**

MEAL

....we thank you for your faithfulness to St. James in sharing your tithes and offerings and allowing us to do God's work with our hands.

Bread & Wine and Our Gifts are brought forward..... while we sing

The Offering Hymn: "What Feast of Love"

**to the tune "What Child Is This"

What feast of love is offered here? What banquet come from heaven?

What food of everlasting life, what gracious gift is given?

This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heaven.

Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the manna given!

Offering Prayer

God of abundance, receive and bless these gifts we have offered. Join our hearts with the song of the angels and gather us at your table of celebration. Strengthen us to share with all the world the abundance of your grace upon grace, poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Amen.

Table Setting Hymn: "In the Singing"



1 In the sing - ing, in the si - lence, in the hands ex - pect - ant, o - pen,



in the bless - ing, in the break - ing, in your pres - ence at this ta - ble,

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also 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**

....we join their unending hymn:

(C) sings: Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might; Heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

Mystery of our Faith. **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Invitation to Communion

In this meal of bread and wine, we believe Christ is truly present forgiving sin, reconciling us to God and one another, and giving new life. Christ is host. Christ is the one who invites us to the table even while it is properly understood as the meal of the baptized. All are welcome at the Lord's Table.

As communion is distributed, you are invited to sing the following hymns:

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

- 1 O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.
- 2 For Christ is born of Mary, and, gathered all above
while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wond'ring love.
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!
- 3 How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heav'n.
No ear may hear his coming; but, in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.
- 4 O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
oh, come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!

"Away in the Manger"

- 1 Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.
- 2 The cattle are lowing; the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky
and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.
- 3 Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay
close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care
and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

"Joy to the World"

- 1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king;
let ev'ry heart prepare him room and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.
- 2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
- 3 No more let sin and sorrow grow nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.
- 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"

- 1 It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav'n's all-gracious king."
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.
- 2 Still through the cloven skies they come with peaceful wings unfurled,
and still their heav'nly music floats o'er all the weary world.
Above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hov'ring wing,
and ever o'er its babel sounds the blessed angels sing.
- 3 And you, beneath life's crushing load, whose forms are bending low,
who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow:
look now, for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing;
oh, rest beside the weary road and hear the angels sing!
- 4 For lo! The days are hast'ning on, by prophets seen of old,
when with the ever-circling years shall come the time foretold,
when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,
and all the world give back the song which now the angels sing.

Prayer after Communion..... and we say: Amen.

SENDING

Benediction..... and we say: Amen.

Sending Hymn: "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing"



- 1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
- 2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";
- 3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan-d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end - less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,
Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan - d'ring from the fold of God;
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good - ness prove.
he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Dismissal

Chris the Savior is born! Go in peace. Proclaim the good news. Thanks be to God.



Happy New Year to you and your family!

May the blessings of Christ be always with you in all the ups and downs of your new year. May 2023 bring you peace and be filled with joy. May you be guided toward the path of love and redemption. Amen.

Happy New Year! Pastor Tonia

1st Official Notice (according to our By-laws) of our upcoming Annual Congregational Meeting for St. James – Sunday, January 15th, 2023 immediately after our worship service.

This meeting will be available by Zoom for those of you at home.

***Watch for an invitation to join and instructions for those of you not familiar to Zoom.*

Please join us for a potluck **Brunch**  immediately after the Annual Meeting.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING

January 2023 Altar Guild: Kim Behrent

January 2023 Cleaner(s): Mina Morse, Jean Voldseth, Leslie Mullin and Betty Ames

January 1st, 2023 Reader(s): Randy & KayDel Shelton

January 1st, 2023 Communion Helper(s): **Will someone sign up to help today?**

Thank you, Brian & Sheri Luepke for helping with communion Christmas Eve & Christmas Day.

January 1st, 2023 Usher(s): **Will someone sign up to help today?**

Thank you, Chris Fleury for ushering Christmas Eve & Joy Goehner for ushering Christmas Day.

January 1st, 2023 Gate Keepers: Leslie Mullin & Rae Ellen Strickland

2023 Musician(s): Marge Sunvold & Betty Ames



Thank you Brian, Sheri, Maureen, Pat, Larry, Joy, Marge, Jennifer and Donna for sharing the Nativity scene with us while Pastor Tonia read from the Gospel of Luke 2:1-20.

Thank you for your prayers and generosity. May the Lord bless you and give you peace.

"Your faith in God's mission for St. James is unshakeable."

FOR YOUR REVIEW AND PRAYER.....

December 4 th Offering gratefully received	\$ 3,240.00
December 11 th Offering gratefully received	\$ 1,628.00
December 18 th Offering Gratefully received	\$ 1,615.00
December 24 th Offering Gratefully received	\$ 890.00
December 25 th Offering Gratefully received	<u>\$11,510.00</u>
Total received this month	\$18,883.00

**Our 2022 monthly budget to meet is \$ 8,008.33

**Jan (\$634.43) + Feb (\$1,718.33) + Mar (\$3,428.33) + Apr (\$1,868.33) - May \$6,476.91 + June \$(2,613.33)
+ July (2,248.33) + August (\$2,250.33) + September (\$1,432.33) + October (\$1,528.03) +
November (2,283.33) - December \$10,874.67 =**

Our 2022 YTD UNDER Monthly Budget by negative (\$2,653.52)

Continued reminder of how to give your monthly tithe or offering to your church.....

1. Mail your offering to the church at St. James Lutheran Church, PO Box 356, Columbus, MT, 59019
2. Take your envelope offering to Pastor Tonia's parsonage and put in the designated box on her front porch.
3. Stop in at your bank and arrange a monthly auto pay transaction.
4. Give online through **Tithe.ly**, a giving app endorsed by the ELCA. Each transaction carries a small fee. Your gift is safe / secure and goes directly to our church or ministry. Plus, you'll be able to track all your gifts, setup recurring, and more!

Tithe.ly (click on this blue "Tithe.ly" link – takes you directly to St. James' account to sign-up)

Remember that Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever (Hebrews 13:8).



Happy January Birthday

Con Lofing 1/3; Mikaela Koski 1/8; Butch Behrent 1/13;
Anders Bjorkman 1/16; Pam Carlson 1/21; Carter Short 1/23;
Leanne Sekora 1/28; Arlene Mitchell 1/28



Happy January Anniversary

Larry & Joy Goehner 1/3

**It's a new year and new beginnings..... for those with email,
watch your inbox for your special Birthday or Anniversary cards
from St. James. It will show up from the trusted site of
American Greetings and look like the image below!
Other members (with no email) will receive your card by "snail mail".**



american greetings

YOU RECEIVED AN ECARD!

Betty Ames (btames@yahoo.com) has sent you an ecard from American Greetings

VIEW ECARD

PLEASE KEEP IN PRAYER...

For those hospitalized, in nursing homes and homebound, and those battling cancer or other illnesses.

We offer new prayers for:

Christy Meierhoff (Denise & Steve Cowen's daughter) in your prayers. She had another surgery to remove a precancerous lump yesterday 12/29. Also, please keep Don Meierhoff in prayer for continued progress after back surgery.

Merridy Gauthier, who continues to be hospitalized in Billings, to LaNita Maurer, who is battling complications from a stroke and Tessa Rouane's husband, Conner, who still remains in ICU after a fall off a roof. Give wisdom to their doctors and compassion to the nurses and CNA's who minister to all of them. Give comfort, peace, and strength to their families. We give thanks for Your Spirit which surrounds them during this time. Amen.

We offer continued prayers for:

Your healing and wisdom Lord for Tonia's brother, John Strohecker; Steve & Denise Cowan; Bob & Bev Kem; Vi Ekle; Bonny Rouse; Joy Goehner; Pete Hegg; Gary Lofing; Kyme Noble.

Those living with cancer: Brian Wanner; Bob Rouane; Araceli Enano; Rick Cox; Ashley Foster; Jenny Hansen Cheff; Shane Fouhy; Jim Wilson and Sandy Yoder's daughter in law, Lola.

Those with COVID and those dealing with its lasting effects.

The children of the world, this is a big request, but God is big. Children who are food insecure & home insecure. Pray especially for a little boy named Luke and a little girl named Nevaeh.

Ukraine and her people

*Please pray for all of those who serve in our military domestically & overseas,
As well as their spouses and children*

We offer PRAISE for good news and continued prayers:

From Brian & Sydne Wanner: The Dr called yesterday with the biopsy results. It was a stage 1 non-aggressive cancer and they are certain that they got it all! Praise God! He will have ongoing scans, is still sore and out for about another month, but seems a lot better in the last day or two. Very relieving news in a very scary situation. It all happened fairly fast. Again, thank you for your prayers!

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES to REFLECT GOD'S LOVE to OURSELVES, to EACH OTHER and to OUR NEIGHBORS

REMINDERS:

- ***Every Wednesday*** Watch Pastor Tonia's "Word on Wednesday" message on FB or open the Word(s) on Wednesday email with a copy of Pastor Tonia's weekly message
- ***Every Friday or Saturday*** The Weekly Preparing for Worship email arrives in your inbox with the bulletin for the upcoming Sunday Worship service and, also, the "Children's Worship Bulletins" series for you to open & enjoy and share with your family & friends.

MORE Community Events for St. James:

- Every Monday we are invited to join:
 - ~The Stillwater Youth Center for coffee and visiting from 8-11am.
- Every Tuesday we are invited to attend:
 - ~ The Women's Adult Group at the Stillwater Youth Center at 9:30am and/or 7:00pm for an inductive study on Revelation
 - ~ Absarokee Quilting Group – 10am in the basement of the Cobblestone building. Knitters, crocheters and embroiderers are welcome.
- Every Wednesday we are invited to join:
 - ~ Social Hour at the Columbus Senior Center at 9:30am
 - ~ The Stillwater Youth Center for coffee and visiting from 8-11am



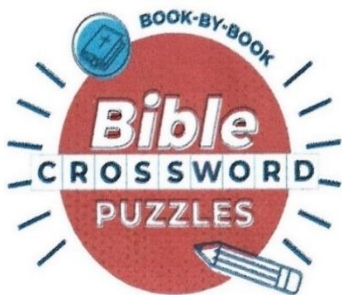
Upcoming Future Library Events:

Cricut Class Saturday, Jan 7th, 2023 @ 1pm

Memory + Imagination = Fiction presentation with Craig Lancaster & Elisa Lorella Saturday, Jan 14th @ 1:30pm

THIS WEEKS ANSWERS:

**** Check Wednesday 12/28 e-mail for these puzzles**



Haggai

1. Ruin
2. Harvest
3. Drought
4. Zerubbabel
5. Jozadak
6. Egypt
7. Glory
8. Darius
9. Nations
10. Thoughts

Zechariah

1. Donkey
2. Spirit
3. Olives
4. Return
5. Philistines
6. Ancestors
7. Thirty
8. Prophets
9. Uniques
10. Parents

Malachi

1. Esau
2. Contemptible
3. Sacrifice
4. Violence
5. Perjurers
6. Tithes
7. Elijah
8. Offspring
9. Good
10. Governor



January 2023 Mission offering

~ Your continued support benefits.....

"St John's United" Chapel Court residents' wish list!

YOUR generosity will let staff provide the residents with a few of their needed things i.e. toilet paper; kleenex; shampoo; word search books; microwave popcorn; socks; puzzles, etc etc.

WERE GRATEFUL
for you!

We will be "de-Christmas"ing the Sanctuary after worship on Sunday January 8th.

Your help with this would be most appreciated!