

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"**

To our faithful followers at home or where ever you are, PLEASE let us know you are watching by writing a post or give your name.
We'd love to hear from you!

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 2nd, 2022 –
The 2nd Sunday of Christmas**



Welcome, Announcements & Opportunities for Serving

Blessings to all of you, whether you are joining us in the house of God,
joining us by watching the live/recorded service or in spirit and prayer.

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

.....and also be with you.

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

GATHERING

Confession & Forgiveness:

Holy God, we confess our sin before you. We replace compassion with competition. We seek what is mighty while ignoring the meek. We are quick to anger but slow to forgive. We have not put on love in harmony with you. Wrap us in the grace of your powerful Word. Swaddle our hearts with your peace, so all we do, in word or deed, may reflect your love born among us. Amen.

Assurance of God's Love

Gathering Hymn: "O Come, All Ye Faithful"



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;
sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!
Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!

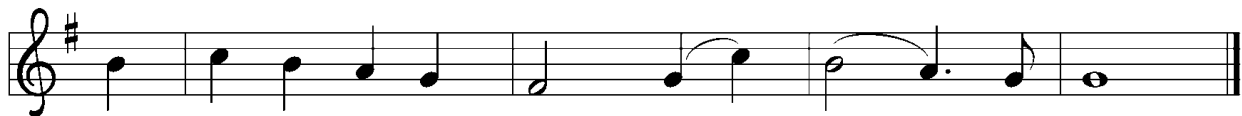


come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:
Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!
Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:
Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

Refrain



Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,
O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,



ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.
O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

Prayer of the Day:

O God our redeemer, you created light so we might live, and you illumine our world with your beloved Son. By your Spirit comfort us in all darkness, and turn us toward the light of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

Hear the 1st Reading: Jeremiah 31:7-14

⁷Thus says the LORD: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O LORD, your people, the remnant of Israel." ⁸See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. ⁹With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. ¹⁰Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock." ¹¹For the LORD has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. ¹²They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. ¹³Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. ¹⁴I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the LORD.

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

Read Psalm 147:12-20 responsively by whole verse

¹²Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; praise your God, O Zion, ¹³**who has strengthened the bars of your gates and has blessed your children within you.** ¹⁴God has established peace on your borders and satisfies you with the finest wheat. ¹⁵**God sends out a command to the earth, a word that runs very swiftly.** ¹⁶God gives snow like wool, scattering frost like ashes. ¹⁷**God scatters hail like bread crumbs. Who can stand against God's cold?** ¹⁸The LORD sends forth the word and melts them; the wind blows, and the waters flow. ¹⁹**God declares the word to Jacob, statutes and judgments to Israel.** ²⁰The LORD has not done so to any other nation; they do not know God's judgements. Hallelujah!

Hear the 2nd Reading: Ephesians 1:3-14

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹²so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory

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 John, we say: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Hear the Reading of the Gospel: John 1:10-18

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace

and truth. ¹⁵(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") ¹⁶From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

*The Gospel of the Lord, we say: **Praise to you, O Christ.***

Sermon: "Face Blindness"

Reflection Hymn: "What Child is This"



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar - y's lap is sleep - ing?
2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas - ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?
Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

Apostle's 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 to the dead. 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 the People

Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Passing of the Peaceand 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.

Offering Prayer

Gracious God, your Word-made-flesh brings harmony to the earth. As we offer ourselves and these your gifts, prepare us to receive the grace and truth you offer at this table and renew in us the song of your salvation, in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Table Setting Hymn: "What Feast of Love" to the tune of "What Child is This"



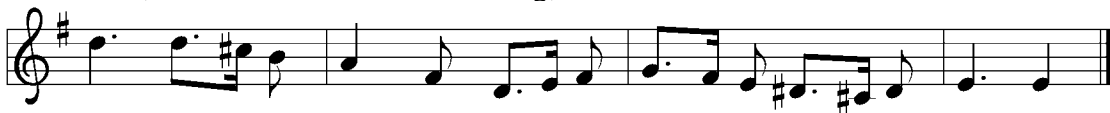
What feast of love is of-fered here, what banquet come from heaven?



What food of ev - er lasting 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 ma -nna given!

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:

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:

"Away in the Manger"

- Vs. 1 Away in a manger, no crib for his bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
the stars in the sky looked down where he lay; the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.
- Vs. 2 The cattle are lowing; the poor baby wakes, 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.
- Vs. 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.

"Silent Night "

- Vs. 1 Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child. Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.
- Vs 2 Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;
glories stream from heaven afar, heav'nly hosts sing, alleluia!
Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!
- Vs 3 Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from your holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth, Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

"Angels We Have Heard on High "

- Vs. 1 Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains.
- Refrain: Gloria in excelsis Deo; gloria in excelsis Deo.
- Vs. 2 Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heav'nly song?
- Refrain: Gloria in excelsis Deo; gloria in excelsis Deo.
- Vs. 3 Come to Bethlehem and see, him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord, the newborn king.
- Refrain: Gloria in excelsis Deo; gloria in excelsis Deo.

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

SENDING

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

Sending Hymn: "Joy to the World"



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the



ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -



room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
plains re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing
flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his



sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
found, far as, far as the curse is found.
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Dismissal

Go in peace and joy to remember the story and to share the story in word and work.

AMEN, may it ever be so.

*Music Published by Permission, CCLI #11445215
Worship Service recorded by Permission, CSPL #1686*

***1st Official Notice (according to our By-laws) of our upcoming
Annual Congregational Meeting
for St. James – Sunday, January 16th, 2022
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.***

LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS:

The Christmas and Epiphany Season

Devotions for the Seasons of Christmas and Epiphany
written by rostered and lay leaders in the Montana Synod

~2021~



***Click on the attachment
to this email, for the
daily devotions.***

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING

January 2022 Altar Guild: Kim Behrent

January 2022 Cleaner(s): Mina Morse, Jean Voldseth, Betty Ames and Leslie Mullin

January 2022 Reader: Randy Shelton

January 2022 Usher(s):

January 2022 Communion Helper(s):

January 2022 Gate Keepers: Council members in attendance will serve.

Musician(s): Marge Sunvold and Betty Ames

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST. JAMES THIS WEEK & BEYOND.....

- **Tuesday January 4th, 2022** Bible Study @ 2pm
- Watch Pastor Tonia's a "Word on Wednesday" live on FB **Wednesday January 5th** or recorded on our FB Page or catch up on past letters you may have missed attached to an email or can be found on our Website.
- **Sunday January 16th, 2022** Annual Meeting immediately after worship – ZOOM available for those at-home wanting to attend.
- **Sunday January 30th, 2022** Church Council Meeting for new & old members immediately after worship.

An opportunity to care for the Lord's Table....

Altar Guild is looking for new members..... The schedule has been arranged to be more flexible to meet your needs. A specific task list and personal instruction will be given to anyone who would like to be involved in this ministry. For more information, please contact:

Kim Behrent (406) 321-2535 or **Pastor Tonia** (406) 656-9557

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

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

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).



Is there any member interested in assuming the ministry of Prayer Chain requests? A group email list of those who have been interested in receiving this information, will be provided to you. Church members will contact you with a prayer request, providing you with names (ask for sp. If unsure) and all pertinent and correct information. You will then email the request to the specified group. Please let Pastor Tonia or Betty Ames know if you'd be interested in this ministry.

In the meantime, continue to contact Pastor Tonia, either by text or email (see info top of page)

*For new prayer requests, please contact **Pastor Tonia**. Text or call her at (406) 656-9557 or email her at toniafisherclarkmt@gmail.com*

PLEASE KEEP IN PRAYER...

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

We offer continued prayers for:

Your healing and wisdom Lord for Steve Cowan; Zane Fluery; Gary Lofing; Kyme Noble; Victoria Seymour.

Those living with cancer: Aracelii Enano; Ashley Foster; Jenny Hansen Cheff; Rick Cox; Delbert Goehner; Les Lane; Ann Pomeroy; Barb Potzman; Jim Wilson and Sandy Yoder's daughter in law, Lola.

Those with COVID and those dealing with its lasting effects.

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



Happy January Birthday

Con Lofing 1/3; Mikaela Koski 1/8; 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

Welcome
2022



Each new year brings us new opportunities to know Him more, to walk in faith, and grow by His grace.

May your year be blessed in the Lord.

“...Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him.” — 1 CORINTHIANS 2:9 KJV