

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

**On the website, scroll down to "Click here for the St. James YouTube link"

To our faithful followers at home or wherever you are, PLEASE let us know you are watching by writing a post or give your name.

We'd love to hear from you!

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

We certainly hope you are

Having Fun with Faith...

We hope you are enjoying the series of "Children's Worship Bulletins", attached to **Every Weekly Preparing for Worship Email**. These games are geared toward all age levels, so, everyone can join in the fun!

ALSO, Every Tuesday or Thursday, watch for the email with the "Challenges Kit for Kids"

PLEASE FORWARD & SHARE these bulletins & kits with your kids, grandkids, friends & friend's friends!!!!

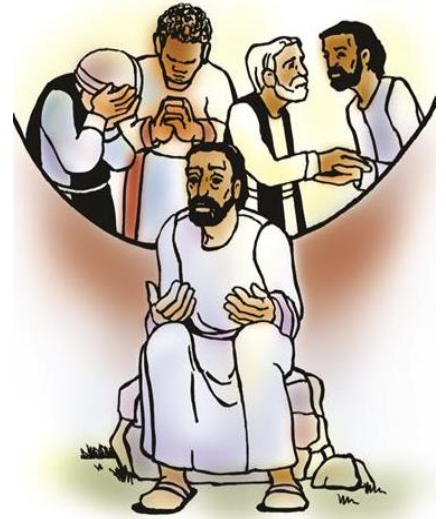
ALSO, Every Wednesday, continue to watch for the Word(s) on Wednesday email with a copy of Pastor Tonia's weekly message or watch recorded on our FB page.

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 29th, 2023
4th Sunday after Epiphany

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.*

GATHERING

Confession & Forgiveness

Holy One, source of our renewal, we confess we are wrapped up in sin, and cannot free ourselves. We have not practiced your righteousness. Our hearts have turned away from you. For the sake of the world you so love, forgive us, so we may be reconciled to one another for the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Assurance of God's Love

Gathering Hymn: "This is My Song"



1 This is my song, O God of all the na - tions,
2 My coun - try's skies are blu - er than the o - cean,
3 This is my prayer, O God of all earth's king - doms,



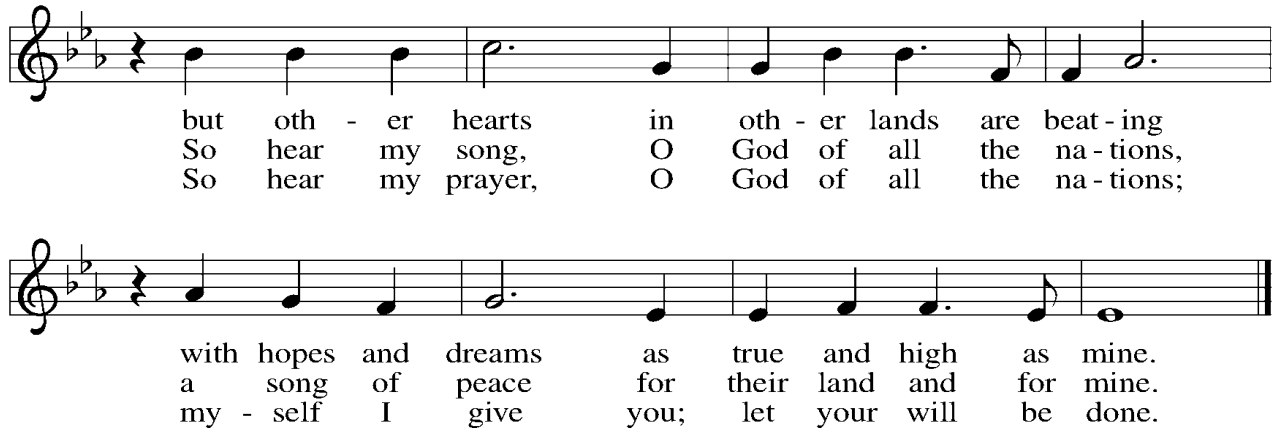
a song of peace for lands a - far and mine.
and sun - light beams on clo - ver - leaf and pine.
your king - dom come; on earth your will be done.



This is my home, the coun - try where my heart is;
But oth - er lands have sun - light too, and clo - ver,
O God, be lift - ed up till all shall serve you,



here are my hopes, my dreams, my ho - ly shrine;
and skies are ev - 'ry - where as blue as mine.
and hearts u - nit - ed learn to live as one.



but oth - er hearts in oth - er lands are beat - ing
 So hear my song, O God of all the na - tions,
 So hear my prayer, O God of all the na - tions;
 with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.
 a song of peace for their land and for mine.
 my - self I give you; let your will be done.

Prayer of the Day

Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, so in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

Hear the 1st Reading: Micah 6:1-8

¹Hear what the LORD says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. ²Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD, and you enduring foundations of the earth; for the LORD has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel. ³O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! ⁴For I brought you up from the land of Egypt and redeemed you from the house of slavery; and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. ⁵O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, so you may know the saving acts of the LORD." ⁶With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? ⁷Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?" ⁸He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? Word of Wisdom, Word of God. **THANKS BE TO GOD.**

Read Psalm 15 responsively by whole verse

¹LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle? Who may abide upon your holy hill? ²**Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right, who speak the truth from their heart;** ³they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends; they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor. ⁴**In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who fear the LORD. They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.** ⁵They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes against the innocent. Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.

Hear the 2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." ²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. ²⁶Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, ²⁹so that no one might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

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

Please remain seated for the **Sermon introduction from Pastor Tonia:**

"Today we will hear the message Jesus wanted everyone to hear....."

The Gospel Acclamation:

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

We sing: Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

The Gospel according to Matthew:

We sing the response after the announcement: **"Glory to you, O Lord"**

Matthew 5:1-12

¹When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying: ³"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ⁴"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. ⁵"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. ⁶"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. ⁷"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. ⁸"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. ⁹"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. ¹⁰"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ¹¹"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

The Gospel of the Lord:

We sing the response after the conclusion: **"Praise to you, O Christ"**

Sermon: "Even Me? Even Me!"

Reflection Hymn: "O God of Mercy"

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 O God of mer - cy, God of light, in love and
2 You sent your Son to die for all, that our lost
3 Teach us the les - son Je - sus taught: to feel for
4 For all are kin - dred, far and wide, since Je - sus



mer - cy in - fi - nite, teach us, as ev - er
world might hear your call; oh, hear us lest we
those his blood has bought, that ev - 'ry deed and
Christ for all has died; grant us the will, and



in your sight, to live our lives in you.
stray and fall! We rest our hope in you.
word and thought may work a work for you.
grace pro - vide, to love them all in you.

5 In sickness, sorrow, want, or care, May we each other's burdens share,
May we, where help is needed, there, give help as thought to you.

6 And may your Holy Spirit move, all those who live to live in love,
Till you receive in heav'n above, all those who live in you.

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.

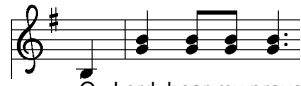
He is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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 "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 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.

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

Liberating God, you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior. Amen.

Table Setting Hymn: "In the Singing"



1 In the sing - ing, in the si - lence, in the hands ex - spect - 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

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, for ever and ever.

AMEN.

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:

"Lamb of God"



1 Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, but you have
2 Your gift of love we cru - ci - fied. We laughed and
3 I was so lost, I should have died, but you have



sent him from your side to walk up - on this guilt - y
scorned him as he died. The hum - ble king we named a
brought me to your side to be led by your staff and



sod and to be - come the Lamb of God. O Lamb of
fraud and sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God.
rod and to be called a lamb of God.

God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the ho - ly Lamb of God. Oh, wash me
 in your pre-cious blood, my Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

“Here is Bread”

1 Here is bread, here is wine, Christ is with us, he is with us.
 2 Here is grace, here is peace, Christ is with us, he is with us.
 3 Here we are, joined in one, Christ is with us, he is with us.

Break the bread, taste the wine, Christ is with us here.
 Know his grace, find his peace, feast on Je - sus here.
 We'll pro - claim till he comes Je - sus cru - ci - fied.

Refrain

In this bread there is heal - ing, in this cup is life for - ev - er.
 In this mo - ment, by the Spir - it, Christ is with us here.

“I Come with Joy”

1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and
 2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are
 3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion
 4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er
 5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has

free, the life of Je - sus to re - call in
 fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in
 ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and
 near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -
 done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the

love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
 Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.
 strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.
 live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.
 love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

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

SENDING

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

Sending Hymn: "Let Justice Flow like Streams"



- 1 Let jus - tice flow like streams of spar- kling wa - ter, pure,
- 2 Let righ - teous - ness roll on as oth - ers' cares we heed,
- 3 So may God's plumb line, straight, de - fine our mea - sure true,



en - a - bling growth, re - fresh - ing life, a - bun - dant, cleans - ing, sure.
an ev - er - flow - ing stream of faith trans - lat - ed in - to deed.
and jus - tice, right, and peace per - vade this world our whole life through.

Dismissal: Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus. **Thanks be to God.**

Music Published by Permission, CCLI #11445215 Worship Service recorded by Permission, CSPL #168651

TODAY – Council Meeting immediately after worship.



January 2023 Mission Offering

~ Your continued support benefits.....

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

YOUR MONEY 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.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING

January 2023 Altar Guild: Kim Behrent

February 2023 Altar Guild: Maureen Hemphill / Kim Behrent

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

February 2023 Cleaner(s): Leanne Sekora & Pat Lofing

January 2023 Reader(s): Randy & KayDel Shelton

February 2023 Reader(s): Leanne Sekora

January 29th, 2023 Communion Helper(s): Will you sign up to help today?

Thank you, Rae Ellen Strickland & Donna Zeigler for helping with communion last Sunday.

January 29th, 2023 Usher(s): Will you sign up to help today?

Thank you, Carrie Williams & Larry Goehner for ushering last Sunday.

January 29th, 2023 Gate Keepers: Carrie Williams & Donna Zeigler

February 5th, 2023 Gate Keepers: Chris Fleury & Joy Goehner

2023 Musician(s): Marge Sunvold & Betty Ames

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.”

FYI: At the annual meeting held Jan 15th, 2023,

\$99,336.80 was the yearly approved 2023 budget ÷ 12 months = \$8,278.07 per/month

FOR YOUR REVIEW AND PRAYER.....

Our NEW 2023 monthly budget to be used will be

January 1 st Offering gratefully received	\$ 390.00
January 8 th Offering gratefully received	\$1,588.00
January 15 th Offering gratefully received	\$1,225.00
January 22 nd Offering gratefully received	\$1,075.00

Total received so far this month \$4,278.00

****Our 2023 monthly budget to meet is \$8,278.07**

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 who have 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!

Note: Parents, please watch your email or mail for St. James' birthday greetings to share with your children / grandchildren, who are on our list. Thank you!

Other members (with no email) will receive your card by "snail mail".



YOU RECEIVED AN ECARD!

St. James Lutheran Church (btjames@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 continued prayers for:

Your healing and wisdom Lord for Bob Hemphill; Merridy Gauthier; LaNita Maurer; Tessa Rouane's husband, Conner; 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; Aracelii 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***

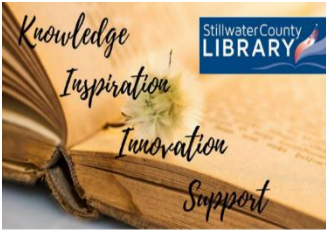
OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES to REFLECT GOD'S LOVE to OURSELVES, to EACH OTHER and to OUR NEIGHBORS

REMINDERS:

- **Every Tuesday or Thursday** Watch your inbox for the "Challenges Kit for Kids" activities.
- **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 8-10am.
- 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 8-10am



Upcoming Future Library Events:

Learning Libby January Classes: Every Tues 4pm;
Every Thurs 10am & Sat Jan 28th 2pm.

Reminder: Every Wednesday, at the Stillwater County Library!
10:00am - Children's Story Time usually followed by a craft!
3:45 to 4:45 pm – New Middle School Program! This week – TRIVIA!

Are you ready for some football?

CHAMPIONSHIP SUNDAY TODAY Jan 29th

These games will determine the best of the best in the AFC & the NFC

1:00PM



SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS

VS

PHILADELPHIA EAGLES



4:30PM



CINCINNATI BENGALS

VS

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS



Now, OUR fun begins!

On Sunday, February 12th,
Bring your change, green or checkbook
to place your vote for the team
YOU want to be the next

Super Bowl Champions!

The game will be played at State Farm Stadium in Glendale, Arizona (the stadium will host its third Super Bowl and first since 2015). Super Bowl LVII will be broadcast on Fox at 6:30 p.m. with possibly an opportunity to watch with more fans at the Palladium Draughthaus!!!

Note: *All proceeds from our FEBRUARY FUN MISSION OFFERING will benefit Project Hope's Food Bank!!*



*Lent is the time we prepare ourselves,
as we follow Christ's journey to the cross.*



February 22nd @ 7:00pm St. James Lutheran Church

*We gather for the imposition of ashes to be marked as disciples
with the sign of the cross, to be sealed by the Spirit as God's own
and to be fed for our journey through Lent.*

St. James will be entering a holy time. The Lenten candles will be lit during the 2023 "Lenten Candle Services" starting Sunday February 26th @ 9:30am. Over the next six weeks, the light will slowly fade into darkness. We will retell the story of Jesus' betrayal and suffering and death and resurrection.



As we are reminded of how we abound in hope during this season of reflection, St. James Lutheran Church & the Columbus Congregational Church will continue to have a combined soup & bread meal and fellowship before the Mid-Week Lenten service, every Wednesday, beginning March 1st - March 29th.

The meal will begin at 5:30pm with the service starting at approximately 6:15pm.

HOLY WEEK begins April 2nd with



No midweek Lenten Service on Wednesday 4/5.

Maundy Thursday Service 4/6 @ UCC 7:00pm

Good Friday Service 4/7 @ St. James 7:00pm



Come Celebrate!

Easter Sunday Services

April 9th

8:30am Fruit & Pastry Brunch

9:30 am Worship Service

He Has Risen, Hallelujah!