

WELCOME TO:

St. James' Worship Service - 9:30am
Clap Your Hands as We Sing to the Lord!
Worship Service is now held in the Sanctuary.

We will be honoring the 3 W's.....

“WATCH” our physical distancing –

We have designated every-other pew open in the sanctuary for us to sit in to make sure we are still distanced properly.

“WEAR” masks for the “Love of One Another”.....



Stillwater County News

As of Monday October 12th FB Page

From the Stillwater Billings Clinic, the county's total case count is now 124 cases with **60 active.**

“WASH” and/or sanitize our hands

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



**PRINT THIS BULLETIN..... to follow along with Sunday's
Worship Service - Streaming live or watch later!**

FB Search: Saint James Lutheran Church of Columbus, Montana

We appreciate hearing from all of you joining us online.

We would LOVE for you to share your insights or leave us a greeting.

We are blessed to count you among those who worship

at St. James Lutheran Church each Sunday morning!



St. James Lutheran Church

205 E 1st Ave. N Columbus, MT 59019
Leader: Pastor Tonia Fisher (406) 656-9557
Email: toniafisherclarkmt@gmail.com

October 18th, 2020 – 20th Sunday after Pentecost

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

Welcome to Worship! We are glad you have joined us here at St. James Lutheran Church.

Prelude

I rejoiced with those who said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD." Ps 122:1

Welcome

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

Announcements & Opportunities for Serving

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

GATHERING

Confession & Forgiveness

Faithful God, have mercy on us. We confess we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways. We pass judgment on one another before examining ourselves. We place our own needs before those of our neighbors. We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves. Make us humble, cast away our transgressions, and turn us again to life in you through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Assurance of God's Love

Gathering Hymn: "Gather Us In" Vs 1 & 2

Vs 1 Here in this place the new light is streaming, Now is the darkness vanished away;
See in this space our fears & our dreamings Brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken, Gather us in, the blind and the lame;
Call to us now, and we shall awaken, We shall arise at the sound of our name.

Vs 2 We are the young, our lives are a myst'ry, We are the old who yearn for your face;
We have been sung throughout all of hist'ry Called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty, Gather us in, the proud and the strong;
Give us a heart, so meek and so lowly, Give us the courage to enter the song.

Prayer of the Day:

Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

WORD

Hear the 1st Reading: Isaiah 45:1-7

¹Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations before him and strip kings of their robes, to open doors before him—and the gates shall not be closed: ²I will go before you and level the mountains, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron, ³I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places, so you may know it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who call you by your name. ⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I surname you, though you do not know me. ⁵I am the LORD, and there is no other; besides me there is no god. I arm you, though you do not know me, ⁶so they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, there is no one besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no other. ⁷I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe; I the LORD do all these things.

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

Hear the Reading of Psalm 96:1-9

¹Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth. ²Sing to the LORD, bless the name of the LORD; proclaim God's salvation from day to day. ³Declare God's glory among the nations and God's wonders among all peoples. ⁴For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised, more to be feared than all gods. ⁵As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; but you, O LORD, have made the heavens. ⁶Majesty and magnificence are in your presence; power and splendor are in your sanctuary. ⁷Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD honor and power. ⁸Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the holy name; bring offerings and enter the courts of the LORD. ⁹Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; tremble before the LORD, all the earth.

Hear the 2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. ²We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

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

Please stand, as you are able, for the Gospel.

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Hear the reading of the Gospel: Matthew 22: 15-22

¹⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. ¹⁶So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" ²¹They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." ²²When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away, arms all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

Sermon: "Show Me The Coin"

Hymn for Reflection: "Lord, Be Glorified"

Vs 1 In my life, Lord, be glorified, be glorified, in my life, Lord, be glorified today.

Vs 2 In our song, Lord, be glorified, be glorified, in our son, Lord, be glorified today.

Vs 3 In your church, Lord, be glorified, be glorified, in your church, Lord, be glorified today.

Vs 4 In your world, Lord, be glorified, be glorified, in your world, Lord, be glorified today.

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 Peace

MEAL

Offering Prayer

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. You have set before us these gifts of your good creation. Prepare us for your heavenly banquet, nourish us with this rich food and drink, and send us forth to set tables in the midst of a suffering world, through the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Hymn of the Day: "Gather Us In" Vs 3 & 4

Vs 3 Here we will take the wine and the water, Here we will take the bread of new birth,
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters, Call us anew to be salt for the earth.
Give us to drink the wine of compassion, Give us to eat the bread that is you;
Nourish us well, and teach us to fashion, Lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Vs 4 Not in the dark of buildings confining, Not in some heaven, light years away –
Here in this place the new light is shining, Now is the kingdom, and now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever, Gather us in and make us your own;
Gather us in, all peoples together, Fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

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

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

The Lord's Prayer

Invitation to Communion

Communion will look a little different during our season of Covid-19.

It will still be the Lord's supper.

We **WILL OPEN** our pre-packaged wafer & partake the body of Christ **with Pastor.**

We **WILL OPEN** our pre-packaged juice & partake the blood of Christ **with Pastor.**

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

SENDING

Blessing..... and we say: **Amen.**

Dismissal: Remember the poor as you are sent to **reflect the love of God.** Go in peace.



Pastor Tonia Fisher



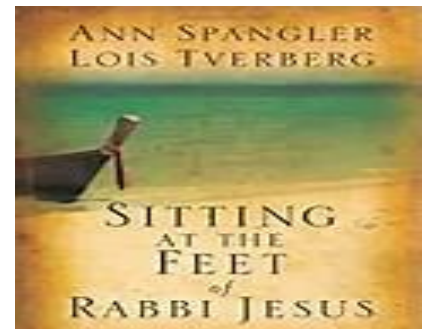
WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST. JAMES THIS WEEK & BEYOND.....

Tuesday October 20th :

***Bible Study @ 2:00pm**

***B.Y.O.B.B.& B. - Bring your own Beverage, Bible & Book!**

We are reading and discussing the book, [Sitting at the Feet of Rabbi Jesus](#) by Ann Spangler and Lois Tverberg.



Wednesday October 14th:

Watch on St. James' FB Page –

****Click on the picture to be directed to the church FB Page.**

A “Word on Wednesday” –

“From the Rising of the Sun”

Pastoral Letter from Pastor Tonia

Or read the full Pastoral Letter below!

From the rising of the sun and from the west, there is no one besides me;

I am the LORD, and there is no other.

I form light and create darkness; I make weal and create woe;

I the LORD do all these things. (Isa 45:6-7)

Who is this God who creates both light and darkness? And why darkness? From the extremes, we see - God can do all things.

In Psalm 113 we hear: From the Rising of the Sun to the going down of the same, the Lord's name is to be praised. (Ps 113:3)

*In an iconic song by Cat Stephens we hear:
Morning has broken like the first morning
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird
Praise for the singing. Praise for the morning
Praise for them springing - fresh from the Word*

Secular or scriptural, these words are poetic, promising, and inspiring. Words of hope, words which bring light to the darkness. Words repeated in scripture to bring weal to our woe, or, as we would say today, God makes our well-being and our sorrow. Which begs the question, why, why sorrow? Shouldn't life be all fun, good times, profitable states?

Back to creation, fresh from the Word, from the Word spoken by God who created all things. From God's word sprang all which is, dark and light, joy and sorrow. Through the transition between, God is present, to guide, to protect, to comfort and to love. This is the God to whom we listen. This is the God who speaks to us, as we face life, which just isn't always smooth sailing. God speaks words of life into our rough seas, our difficult days. God brings encouragement into our depression. God feeds us from God's bounty, right in the midst of our enemies. Filling us with love and comfort during a Pandemic, times of civil unrest, economic uncertainty.

This is the God who forms us in the darkness, strengthening us to face the future. When the way gets difficult, that does not mean God has left us, this is when God leads us - will we follow? This is when God reaches out His hand - will we take it? God created the light AND the dark, there is a purpose; it fulfills God's good will for us and for the world God so loves. God created the weal and the woe. The joy and the sorrow. Darkness and light. Because of the darkness we appreciate the light all that much more. God doesn't send us bum luck, difficulties are a part of life, everything does not always go our way. That's life. Sunrise. Sunset. God created us for His good pleasure, and God is forming us so we can reflect God's love to those around us. So we can witness to God's goodness and love. So we can work for justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God.

Without the dark we would not grow, without the light we cannot live. There is no one like God who could complete our creation and our transformation. We place our lives in God's hands during the darkness of the night and during the darkness of life. Our lives are safe with God during the dark, the unknown; so then, when the sun does rise, and it will, the Lord's name can be praised. So, rejoice, the sun will come out tomorrow, God's light will shine, morning will break in upon our darkness and we will praise the morning, which springs from the Word.

Let us pray.

God of creation, you have created for us darkness and light. You bring hope and joy into the darkness of difficulty and depression. You meet us where we are, strengthen us, put Your arms around us and bring us into the light of Your love. We give You thanks and we praise You for the morning, which springs from Your Word. Amen.

Sunday November 1st:

All Saints Sunday

We will be honoring our departed loved ones on this day –
Please give Pastor Tonia their names to be included in our prayers.

St. James' Opportunity to help our community the
month of October, thru the God's Work, Our Hands Program!



BAKELESS BAKE SALE

God's Work, Our Hands

You are invited to **NOT** bake cookies or bars. You do **NOT** have to find the recipe. You do **NOT** have to shop for the ingredients. You do **NOT** have to mix. You do **NOT** have to cook. You do **NOT** have to cut. You do **NOT** have to wrap. You do **NOT** have to wash dishes. You do **NOT** have to clean up your kitchen. You do **NOT** have to deliver the baked product in the heat/cold/rain.

Instead, you can write a check and give to or send to:

*St. James Lutheran Church PO Box 356
Columbus, MT 59019,*

for what you might have spent and stay home & enjoy doing something for yourself or with your family!



Money from our
Bakeless Bake Sale

will go to support

Project Hope

& the

Columbus Senior Center.



A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING US

October 2020 Altar Guild: Denise Cowan

October 2020 Cleaner(s): Lance & Patty Sundberg and Bob & Maureen Hemphill

October 2020 Gate Keepers: Donna Zeigler, Brian & Sheri Luepke, Larry & Joy Goehner
and Steve & Denise Cowan

October Song Leaders at Worship: Brian & Sheri Luepke and Larry & Joy Goehner

Musician(s): Marge Sunvold and Betty Ames



Happy October Anniversary

Roger & Leslie Mullin 10/17



Happy October Birthday

Justin Lofing 10/3; Leslie Mullin 10/3; BJ Morse 10/5;
Toni Rouane 10/9; Brian Luepke 10/10; Joni Morse 10/20;
Pastor Tonia 10/23; Ken Hajek 10/24; Eric Bjorkman 10/24;
Molly Adams 10/25; Mary Hajek 10/26; Chris Hollingsworth 10/27

For new prayer requests, please contact **Judy Bjorkman** at 321-2988, text or call or by email at jdbjorkman@hotmail.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:

God's peace, timing and comfort for the family and friends of Deloris Etchart.

God's loving presence to surround the residents & staff at Meadowlark Assisted Living.

God's healing for Roger Mullin, Gary Lofing and Jenny Steffenson.

We lift up those living with cancer: Dennis Gauthier; Arvid Barnam, Les Lane and Jim Wilson.

All countries affected by the Coronavirus/Cofid-19 as they struggle to contain it and treat those who have contracted it. Please guide them; heal those who are afflicted with the virus; watch over their doctors, nurses and first responders; and halt its spread.

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

"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 your church or ministry. Plus, you'll be able to track all your gifts, setup recurring, and more!

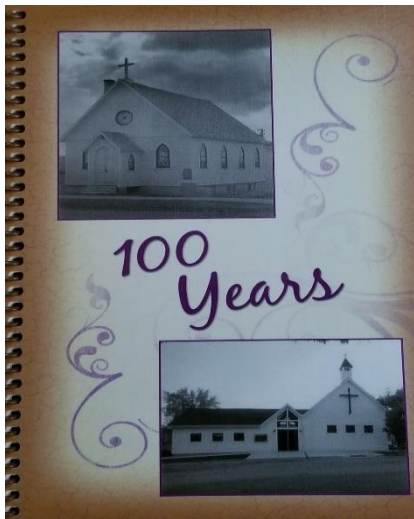
[Tithe.ly](https://tithe.ly) (click on this blue "Tithe.ly" link – takes you directly to St. James' account to sign-up)

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

Mission Offering for October benefits...

St. John's United





How exciting!

Cookbooks have arrived!!

They are for sale **NOW!**

\$10 each

ALSO.....

**100th Anniversary etched mugs
and wine glasses have arrived!!**

They are on display at the church!

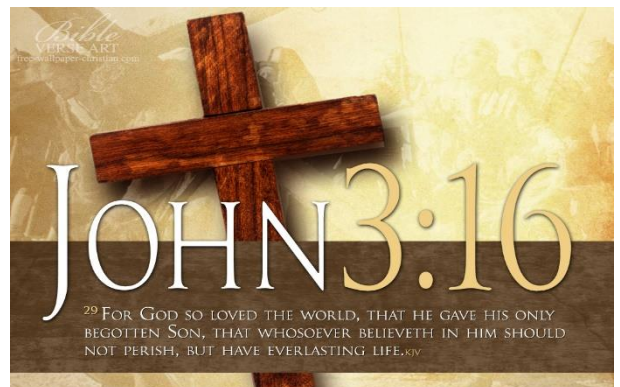
They are **also** for sale **NOW!**

\$10 each

Pick yours up at church on Sunday, doors are open for Bible Study on Tuesday's 2pm-3pm or get in touch with Pastor Tonia, Karen, Denise or Betty and we will make sure you get a copy/mug/glass or two or three of each! 😊

****Please designate on your check memo or envelope the purpose of your money.**

A FAVORITE FOR
**ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH,
IS THIS BEAUTIFUL VERSE
– JOHN **3:16****



This is so fitting to use as our church Wi-Fi password.

TO CONNECT YOUR DEVICE,
PHONE or IPad/TABLET,

CLICK ON - **St. James**

Then, USE THIS PASSWORD:

SJLvs3:16

Simple Reminders...

As the world fights to figure everything out,
we'll be holding doors for strangers,
letting people cut in front of us in traffic,
keeping babies entertained in grocery lines,
stopping to talk to someone who is lonely,
tipping generously, waving at police,
sharing food, giving children a thumbs-up,
being patient with sales clerks,
smiling at passersby,
and buying a stranger a cup of coffee.

WHY? Because we will not stand to live in a world
where love is invisible.
We are Christians!

All join in showing kindness, understanding, and
judging less.

Be kind to a stranger, give grace to people
who may be having a bad day,
be forgiving with yourself.

If you can't find kindness, **BE** kindness.