

# 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](http://www.lutheranchurchcolumbusmt.org)

\*\*On the website, scroll down to "Click here for the St. James FB 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!



# St. James Lutheran Church

205 E 1<sup>st</sup> Ave. N. Columbus, MT 59019

Leader: Pastor Tonia Fisher (406) 656-9557

Email: [toniafisherclarkmt@gmail.com](mailto:toniafisherclarkmt@gmail.com)

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

**Sunday November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023 –  
24<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**



## **Welcome, Announcements & Opportunities for Serving**

**"Happy are those who hear the joyful call to worship, for they will  
walk in the light of your presence, LORD...You are their glorious strength.  
It pleases you to make us strong." (Ps 89:15,17)**

*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 One, we confess we are not awake for you. We are not faithful in using your  
gifts. We forget the least of our siblings. We do not see your beautiful image in  
one another. We are infected by sin which divides your beloved community.  
Open our hearts to your coming, open our eyes to see you in our neighbor, open  
our hands to serve your creation. Amen.*

### **Assurance of God's Love**

### **Gathering Hymn: OSB #241 "To God Be the Glory"**

1. To God — be the glo - ry, great things He hath  
2. O per - fect fect re - demp - tion, the pur - chase of  
3. Great things — He hath taught us, great things He hath

done, So loved He the world that He gave us His  
blood, To ev - 'ry be - liev - er the prom - ise of  
done, And great our re - joic - ing thro' Je - sus the

Son. Who yield - ed His life an a - tone - ment for  
 God; The vil - est of - fend - er who tru - ly be -  
 Son; But pur - er, and high - er, and great - er will

Ab Ab7 Db Ab/Eb Eb Ab  
 sin, And o - pened the life - gate that all may go in.  
 lieves, That mo - ment from Je - sus a par - don re - ceives.  
 be Our won - der, our trans - port, when Je - sus we see.

Ab Ab Eb Ab  
 Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the earth hear His

Eb Eb7 Ab Eb  
 voice! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord. Let the peo - ple re -

Ab Eb Ab Eb Ab  
 joice! O come — to the Fa - ther, thro' Je - sus the Son, And

Db Ab/Eb Eb7 Ab  
 give Him the glo - ry, great things He hath done.

## **Prayer of the Day**

*O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.*

## **WORD**

### **Hear the 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: The Wisdom of Solomon 6:12-16**

<sup>12</sup>Wisdom is radiant and unfading, and she is easily discerned by those who love her, and is found by those who seek her. <sup>13</sup>She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her. <sup>14</sup>One who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty, for she will be found sitting at the gate. <sup>15</sup>To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding, and one who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care, <sup>16</sup>because she goes about seeking those worthy of her, and she graciously appears to them in their paths, and meets them in every thought.

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

### **Read Psalm 70 responsively by whole verse**

<sup>1</sup>Be pleased, O God, to deliver me; O LORD, make haste to help me. <sup>2</sup>**Let those who seek my life be put to shame and confounded; let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and be disgraced.** <sup>3</sup>Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat over me turn back because of their shame. <sup>4</sup>**Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; let those who love your salvation say forever, "Great is the LORD!"** <sup>5</sup>But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quickly, O God. You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD, do not tarry.

### **Hear the 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**

<sup>13</sup>We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. <sup>14</sup>For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. <sup>15</sup>For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. <sup>16</sup>For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. <sup>17</sup>Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. <sup>18</sup>Therefore encourage one another with these words.

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

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

### **The Gospel Acclamation: ELW #151**

*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 25:1-13**

Jesus said to the disciples: <sup>1</sup>"Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. <sup>2</sup>Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. <sup>3</sup>When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; <sup>4</sup>but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. <sup>5</sup>As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. <sup>6</sup>But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' <sup>7</sup>Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. <sup>8</sup>The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' <sup>9</sup>But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' <sup>10</sup>And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. <sup>11</sup>Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' <sup>12</sup>But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' <sup>13</sup>Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

### **The Gospel of the Lord:**

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

**Sermon: "Seek Wisdom"**

**Reflection Hymn: OSB #97 "I Will Serve Thee"**

William J. Gaither

Slowly, with expression

I will

E<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup> maj7 E<sup>b</sup>7 A<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup>

serve Thee be - cause I love Thee, You have

B<sup>b</sup>7 B<sup>b</sup>6 D7 E<sup>b</sup> A<sup>b</sup>/B<sup>b</sup>

giv - en life to me; I was

E<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup> maj7 E<sup>b</sup>7 A<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup>

noth - ing be - fore You found me, You have

giv - en life to me.

Ab Ab+ Ab6 Eb

Heart - aches, bro - ken piec - es, Ru - ined

Bb7 Bb6 D7 Eb Fm7 F#o Eb/G Ab

lives are why You died on Cal - v'ry; Your touch

Eb Bb7

is what I longed for; You have giv - en

Bb6 Bb7 1. Eb Ab Eb 2. Eb Ab Eb

life to me. me.

*Fine*

## **Apostle's Creed ELW #105**

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**

After each petition: *P: Lord, in Your mercy,* **C: hear our prayer**

After last petition: **All: AMEN.**

## **Passing of the Peace**

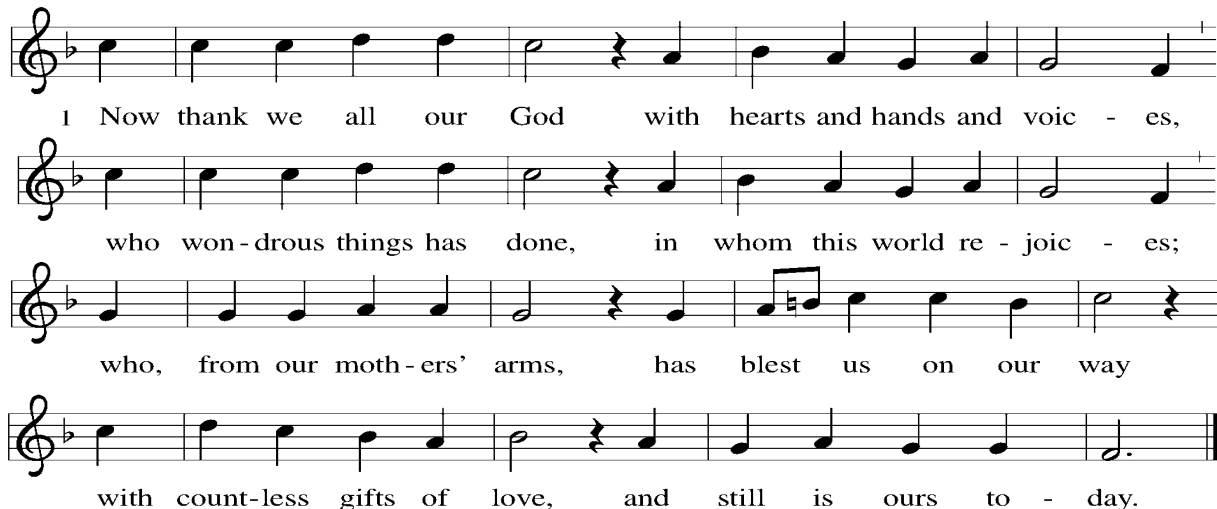
.....and we say: **and also with you.**

## **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: OSB #263 "Now Thank We All Our God"**

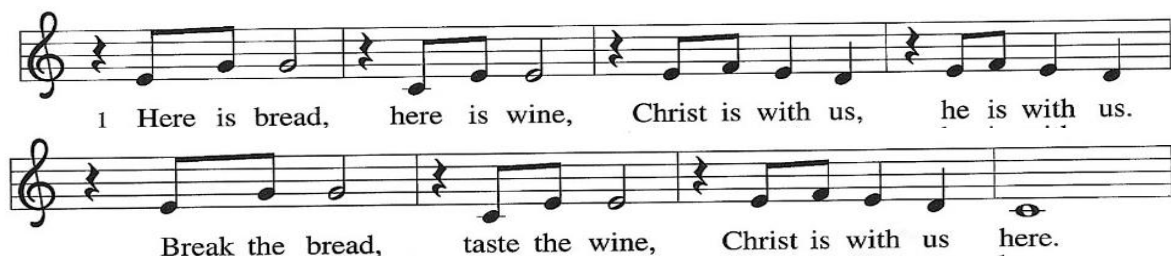


1 Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices,  
who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices;  
who, from our mothers' arms, has blest us on our way  
with count-less gifts of love, and still is ours to-day.

## **Offering Prayer**

*God of all goodness,* generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them so, as we gather these gifts from your abundance and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant. Amen.

## **Table Setting Hymn: "Here is Bread" Vs1 – no refrain**



1 Here is bread, here is wine, Christ is with us, he is with us.  
Break the bread, taste the wine, Christ is with us here.

## Great Thanksgiving ELW #153

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 ELW #154

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:

### "Fill My Cup, Lord" OSB #43

1. Like the wom - an at the well I was seek - ing \_\_\_\_\_ For  
2. There are mil - lions in this world who are crav - ing \_\_\_\_\_ The  
3. So my broth - er, if the things this world gave you \_\_\_\_\_ Leaves

things that could not sat - is - fy. And then I heard my Sav - ior  
please - ure earth - ly things af - ford. But none can match the won - drous  
hun - gers that won't pass a - way. My bless - ed Lord will come and

speaking: "Draw from my well that nev - er shall run dry."  
treas - ure \_\_\_\_\_ That I find in Je - sus Christ, my Lord.  
save you \_\_\_\_\_ If you kneel to Him and hum - bly pray.

Fill my cup, Lord, - I lift it up, Lord, - Come and quench this thirst - ing of my soul.



Bread of heav-en, feed me till I want no more; Fill my cup, fill it up and make me whole.

**“What a Friend We Have In Jesus” OSB #246**

1. What a Friend we have in Je - sus, All our sins and griefs to bear!  
 2. Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions, Is there trou - ble an - y - where?  
 3. Are we weak and heav - y - la - den, Cum - bered with a load of care?

F Bb/F F Bb F/C C7 F/C C F

What a priv - i - lege to car - ry Ev - ery-thing to God in prayer!  
 We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged, Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
 Pre - cious Sav - iour, still our ref - uge, Take it to the Lord in prayer.

C C° C F/C C7 F Bb F/A C7/E F C

O what peace we of - ten for - feit, O what need-less pain we bear,  
 Can we find a friend so faith - ful Who will all our sor - rows share?  
 Do thy friends de - spise, for - sake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer;

F Bb/F F Bb F/C C7 F/C C F

All be - cause we do not car - ry Ev - ery-thing to God in prayer!  
 Je - sus knows our ev - ery weak - ness, Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
 In His arms He'll take and shield thee, Thou wilt find a sol - ace there.

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

## SENDING

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

**Sending Hymn: "O Beautiful for Spacious Skies"**



1 O beau - ti - ful for spa - cious skies, for am - ber waves of grain,  
2 O beau - ti - ful for he - roes proved in lib - er - at - ing strife,  
3 O beau - ti - ful for pa - triot dream that sees be - yond the years



for pur - ple moun - tain maj - es - ties a - bove the fruit - ed plain:  
who more than self their coun - try loved, and mer - cy more than life:  
thine al - a - bas - ter cit - ies gleam, un - dimmed by hu - man tears:



A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed his grace on thee,  
A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! May God thy gold re - fine,  
A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God mend thine ev - 'ry flaw,



and crown thy good with broth - er - hood from sea to shin - ing sea.  
till all suc - cess be no - ble - ness, and ev - 'ry gain di - vine.  
con - firm thy soul in self - con - trol, thy lib - er - ty in law.

**Dismissal:** Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

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

**Readings for 11/19/23 – 25th Sunday after Pentecost Worship Service:**

**Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18; Psalm 90:1-12; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30**

**Today .....**

**Church Council Meeting immediately after Worship.**

**Thank  
YOU**

..... Leslie Mullin and Donna Zeigler for the wonderful coffee hour Sunday November 5<sup>th</sup>. Bless you!

## November Mission offerings.....

~ Your continued support benefits

### **Pastor's Discretionary Fund**

**Note:** We continue in November & December to provide these suggestions from Project Hope for their Holiday Boxes: cranberry sauce; canned pineapple (chunks or slices) & mandarin oranges and canned green beans & corn OR a gift of green \$\$\$\$\$!!!!



**Also, stop by Project Hope for a Christmas Angel to provide joy under a Special Families Christmas tree this year.**



We continue to gather ground coffee along with Russ Dewell's Church in Park City, which he will ship to the troops in Afghanistan. This is the one thing they really miss! This is an on-going mission and Russ was overjoyed when he heard we could also help!

**or a brand of your choice!! THANK YOU!**

Please know you have blessed many community families.



### **Happy November Birthday**

Linda Alton 11/4; Carli Lofing 11/4; Brenna Rouane 11/14;  
Stacy Lofing 11/22; Amber Lofing 11/24



### **Happy November Anniversary**

Bob & Lanita Maurer 11/15

## **A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING**

November 2023 Altar Guild: Kim Behrent

November 2023 Cleaner(s): Lance & Patty Sundberg

November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Reader(s): Kaydel or Randy Shelton

Thank you, Pat Lashley for reading last Sunday.

November 19<sup>th</sup> Reader(s): KayDel or Randy Shelton

November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Communion Helper(s): Denise Cowan

Thank you, Kim Behrent & Carrie Williams for helping with communion last Sunday

November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Communion Helper(s): Denise Cowan

November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Usher(s): **Will someone sign up to help this Sunday?**

Thank you, Leslie Mullin for ushering last Sunday.

November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Gate Keepers: Bill Strickland & Pat Lasley

November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Gate Keepers: Leslie Mullin & Steve Cowan

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.”**

**Comparison view of YTD financials: (A I = Actual Income; A E = Actual Expenses)**

|      | Jan         | Feb         | Mar         | Apr          | May         | June        | July        | Aug         | Sept       | Oct       | Actual totals        |
|------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------|-----------|----------------------|
| A I: | \$5,750;    | \$6,767.26; | \$6,445;    | \$17,107.20; | \$9,715;    | \$4,692.47; | \$7,083;    | \$4,758;    | \$4,907;   | 10,440    | = \$77,664.93        |
| A E: | \$8,078.28; | \$7,756.78; | \$8,448.60; | \$ 8,431.02; | \$6,629.30; | \$7,488.61; | \$8,209.49; | \$7,399.94; | \$6,752.14 | 11,115.47 | = <u>\$80,309.63</u> |

**We are BELOW on Income for meeting YTD EXPENSES minus \$2,644.70**

**FOR YOUR REVIEW AND PRAYER.....**

November 5<sup>th</sup> Offering gratefully received \$1,595.00

**Total received so far this month \$1,595.00**

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

Mail your offering to the church; Take your offering to the parsonage; Auto pay thru your bank and [Tithe.ly](http://Tithe.ly).

[Tithe.ly](http://Tithe.ly) (click on this “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)**

For new prayer requests, please contact **Pastor Tonia**. Text or call her at (406) 656-9557 or email her at [toniafisherclarkmt@gmail.com](mailto: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 Donna Zeigler; Pastor Tonia; Joy & Larry Goehner; KayDel Shelton; Jim Dickey; Joan Elser; Merridy Gauthier; LaNita Maurer; Steve Cowan; Bonny Rouse; Pete Hegg; Gary Lofing; Kyme Noble.

Those living with cancer: Father Fenton; Kaci Thomason; Brian Wanner; Bob Rouane; Aracellii Enano; Ashley Foster; Jenny Hansen Cheff; Shane Fouhy; Jim Wilson & 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 & home insecure.

Victims of violence and of natural disasters.

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

## We certainly hope you are

## Having Fun with Faith...

We hope you are enjoying the series of “Children’s Worship Bulletins”, which are **found on our website.**

[www.lutheranchurchcolumbusmt.org](http://www.lutheranchurchcolumbusmt.org)

These games are geared toward all age levels, so, everyone can join in the fun!

**PLEASE FORWARD & SHARE** these bulletins with your kids, grandkids, friends & friend’s friends!!!



**Every Tuesday,**

Bible Study is held at St. James 2:00pm.

We study the upcoming Sunday lessons.

**HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE**

**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. Print the Bible WORDsearch Puzzles. Enjoy!

**OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES  
TO REFLECT GOD’S LOVE TO EACH OTHER  
AND TO OUR NEIGHBORS**

## 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 embroiderettes 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



For more information, see the "Table Posters" at St. James.

**Join the fun this week.....**

We are starting up BINGO next week and EVERY WEDNESDAY



Have you checked out our new website yet? It showcases everything we provide for the patrons of Stillwater County! We are more than just books! Check it out!

<https://stillwatercountylibrary.org/>

## FUTURE DATES:

**Saturday November 11<sup>th</sup> Veteran's Day**



**Also this same day:**



Their annual charity auction hosted by Rick Young and Sons.

All funds will go towards holiday gifts for seniors living in Columbus, Absarokee, Fishtail, Dean and Nye.

➤ **Tuesday's**

**November 14<sup>th</sup>, November 21<sup>st</sup> & November 28<sup>th</sup> -  
Chorus Practice 6:00pm @ UCC**

**We will be practicing for a "Christmas Cantata!"**

**FYI!**

**Stillwater County Swap & Shop**  
**9TH ANNUAL HOLIDAY EXTRAVAGANZA!**  
**COME JOIN US FOR A TWO DAY HOLIDAY SHOPPING EVENT!**

**NOVEMBER 18 & 19**  
**10 AM - 4 PM**  
**STILLWATER COUNTY CIVIC CENTER**  
**16 SHEEP DIP ROAD**  
**COLUMBUS, MT 59019**

**FREE ENTRY**  
**DOOR PRIZES**  
**SILENT AUCTION**  
**FREE DRAWING AT EVERY BOOTH**  
**FOOD DRIVE FOR PROJECT HOPE**

**Lunch Available Both Days!**  
**Saturday: Holiday Ham Dinner**  
**Sunday: Chili and Chili Dogs**

**SAT. 11/18 11 AM - 2 PM**  
**Kids can take a free picture with Santa and his Elf and receive a free toy & candy cane**

**Thank You Door Prize Sponsors!**

**Sunday November 19<sup>th</sup> –**

**COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING WORSHIP SERVICE**

**4:00pm @ the Assembly of God Church**

**\*\*This community service is a time of worship and thanksgiving.**

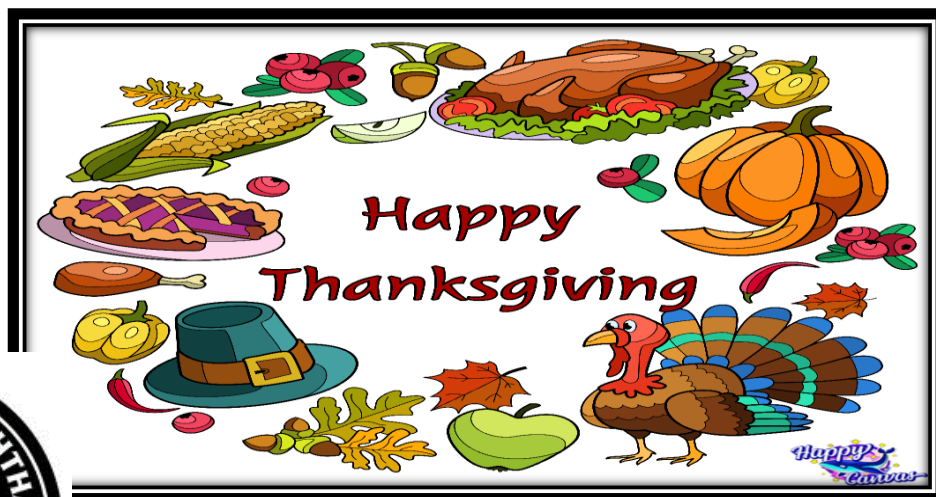
**We will give thanks in songs and prayers.**

**Pastors from the community will share with us how we give thanks with a grateful heart.**

**A free will offering will be collected with the monies going to help those in need. Come give thanks in fellowship with others from our community.**



➤ **Thursday  
November  
23<sup>rd</sup> ....**



**If you need a warm and friendly place  
to enjoy your Thanksgiving Day,  
Join us at Palladium's for the  
2nd annual Thanksgiving Feast!  
Thursday Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup> – dinner at 4:00pm.  
All are welcome!**

➤ **Sunday November 26<sup>th</sup>**



*Please stay after the Worship Service this morning and help  
decorate for Advent & Christmas. Then enjoy fellowship with  
Coffee and Cookies!*

➤ **Sunday December 3<sup>rd</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent Service**

Carrie Williams & Betty Ames INVITES your family and/or your “pew  
neighbor” to STAY after worship to enjoy fellowship & laughter!

**St. James' Annual Progressive Dinner  
Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> 11:00am**

**\*\* Watch for more information**

➤ **Friday December 15<sup>th</sup> – Columbus Parade of Lights**

**\*\* Watch for more information**