

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 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 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 November 19th, 2023 –
25th 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 alland 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: ELW #805 "Lead on O King Eternal"



1 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal! The day of march has come;
2 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,
3 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal: we fol - low, not with fears,



hence-forth in fields of con - quest your tents will be our home.
and ho - li - ness shall whis - per the sweet a - men of peace;
for glad-ness breaks like morn - ing wher - e'er your face ap - pears.



Through days of prep - a - ra - tion your grace has made us strong;
for not with swords loud clash - ing, nor roll of stir-ring drums,
Your cross is lift - ed o'er us; we jour - ney in its light;



and now, O King e - ter - nal, we lift our bat - tle song.
but deeds of love and mer - cy the heav'n - ly king - dom comes.
the crown a - waits the con - quest; lead on, O God of might!

Prayer of the Day

Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

Hear the 1st Reading: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

⁷Be silent before the Lord GOD! For the day of the LORD is at hand; the LORD has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests. ¹²At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, "The LORD will not do good, nor will he do harm."

¹³Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them. ¹⁴The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there. ¹⁵That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, ⁶a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. ¹⁷I will bring such distress upon people so they shall walk like the blind;

because they have sinned against the LORD, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung. ¹⁸Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the LORD's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

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

Read Psalm 90:1-12 responsively by whole verse

¹Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to another. ²Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born, from age to age you are God. ³You turn us back to the dust and say, "Turn back, O children of earth." ⁴For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past and like a watch in the night; ⁵you sweep them away like a dream, they fade away suddenly like the grass: ⁶in the morning it is green and flourishes; in the evening it is dried up and withered. ⁷For we are consumed by your anger; we are afraid because of your wrath. ⁸Our iniquities you have set before you, and our secret sins in the light of your countenance. ⁹When you are angry, all our days are gone; we bring our years to an end like a sigh. ¹⁰The span of our life is seventy years, perhaps in strength even eighty; yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow, for they pass away quickly and we are gone. ¹¹Who regards the power of your wrath? Who rightly fears your indignation? ¹²So teach us to number our days so we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

Hear the 2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

¹Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. ²For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! ⁴But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; ⁵for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. ⁶So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; ⁷for those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. ⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

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 25:14-30

Jesus said to the disciples: ¹⁴"For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; ¹⁵to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. ¹⁷In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. ¹⁸But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. ¹⁹After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' ²¹His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' ²²And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' ²³His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' ²⁴Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you

were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; ²⁵so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' ²⁶But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? ²⁷Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. ²⁹For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. ³⁰As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

The Gospel of the Lord:

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

Sermon: "Econ 101"

Reflection Hymn: ELW #810 "O Jesus I Have Promised"



1 O Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;
 2 Oh, let me feel you near me; the world is ev - er near.
 3 Oh, let me hear you speak - ing in ac - cents clear and still
 4 O Je - sus, you have prom - ised to all who fol - low you



re - main for - ev - er near me, my mas - ter and my friend.
 I see the sights that daz - zle, the tempt - ing sounds I hear.
 a - bove the storms of pas - sion, the mur - murs of self - will.
 that where you are in glo - ry your ser - vant shall be too.



I shall not fear the bat - tle if you are by my side,
 My foes are ev - er near me, a - round me and with - in;
 Now speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol;
 And Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;



nor wan - der from the path - way if you will be my guide.
 but, Je - sus, then draw near - er to shield my soul from sin.
 now speak and make me lis - ten, O Guard - ian of my soul.
 oh, give me grace to fol - low, my mas - ter and my friend.

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

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

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

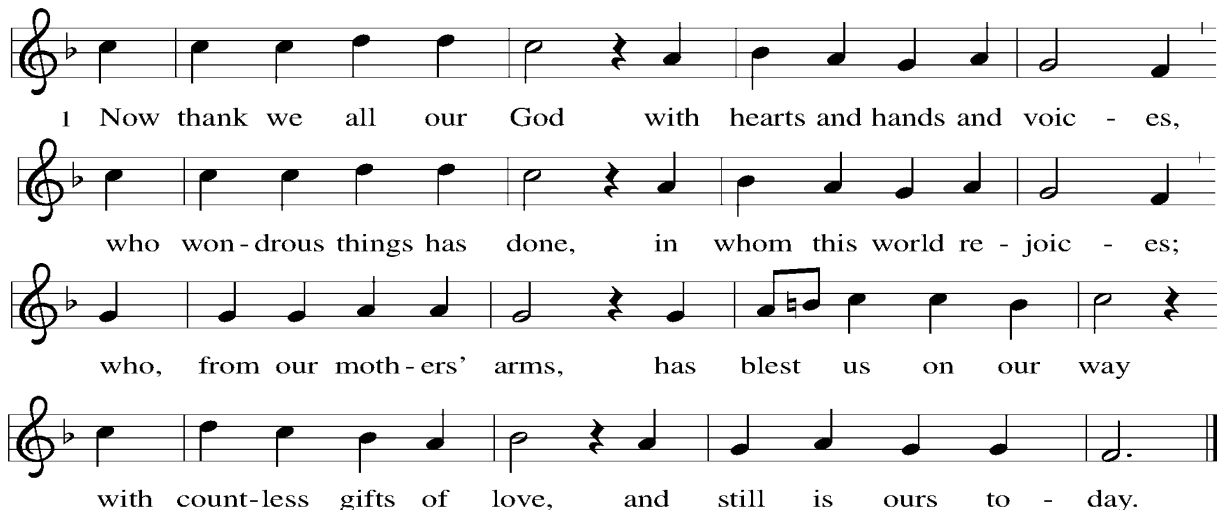
Passing of the Peaceand we say: **and also with you.**

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: ELW #840 "Now Thank We All Our God"



The image shows the musical notation for the hymn "Now Thank We All Our God". It consists of four staves of music in a single system, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a common time signature 'C' and a first ending bracket. The lyrics are: "I Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices,". The second staff continues: "who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices;". The third staff continues: "who, from our mothers' arms, has blest us on our way". The fourth staff concludes: "with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today." The piece ends with a double bar line.

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:

ELW #715 "Christ Be Our Light"

1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for
2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for
3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for
4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for
5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the

truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants

your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.
shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.

Refrain

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the

dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your

church gath - ered to - day.

ELW #801 "Change My Heart O God"

Refrain

Change my heart, O God; make it ev - er true.

Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.

You are the pot - ter; I am the clay.

Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

End

Refrain

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

SENDING

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

Sending Hymn: "Give Thanks"

Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, Give
 thanks to the Ho - ly One, Give thanks be - cause He's
 giv - en Je - sus Christ, His Son. Give
 Son. And now let the weak say, "I am
 strong!" Let the poor say, "I am rich because of
 what the Lord has done for us!" And us!" Give
 us. Give thanks. Give thanks.

Chords: F, C/E, Dm7, Am, Bb, F/A, Eb, Csus, C, C, Am, Dm7, Gm, C7, FMaj7, Dm, E>, C7, C7, D. S., C, F, Gm/F, F, B>, F

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

This Sunday November 19th –

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.

***Thankful***

NEXT SUNDAY 11/26/23 –The Light of Christ Worship Service

This day we will travel through the seasons of the Church Year, celebrating the scripture, songs, and the colors.

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 19th, 2023 Reader(s): Kaydel or Randy Shelton

Thank you, KayDel Shelton for reading last Sunday.

November 19th, 2023 Communion Helper(s): Denise Cowan

Thank you, Kim Behrent and your beautiful granddaughter for helping with communion last Sunday

November 19th, 2023 Usher(s): *Will someone sign up to help this Sunday?*

Thank you, Pat Lashley for ushering last Sunday.

November 19th, 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.”

FOR YOUR REVIEW AND PRAYER.....

November 5th Offering gratefully received \$1,595.00

November 12th Offering gratefully received \$1,735.00

Total received so far this month \$3,330.00

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**.

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*

PLEASE KEEP IN PRAYER...

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

We offer new prayers for:

Your healing for Bob Hemphill as he recovers from surgery. We pray for complete healing, for comfort, and for peace.

Jo Lind and her family and ask You to comfort them during her time of grief as she mourns the loss of her brother, Gerald Eugene Brown.

We offer continued prayers for:

Your healing and wisdom Lord for Pastor Tonia; Joy & Larry Goehner; Jim Dickey; Merridy Gauthier; LaNita Maurer; Steve Cowan; Ken & Pete Hegg; Gary Lofing; Joan Elser; Bonny Rouse.

Those living with cancer: Father Eric Fenton; Kaci Thomason; Brian Wanner; Bob Rouane; Aracelii 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

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.....

BINGO is EVERY WEDNESDAY!



**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE LIBRARY WILL BE CLOSED FROM
NOVEMBER 23RD TO NOVEMBER 26TH,
IN CELEBRATION OF THE THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY.**

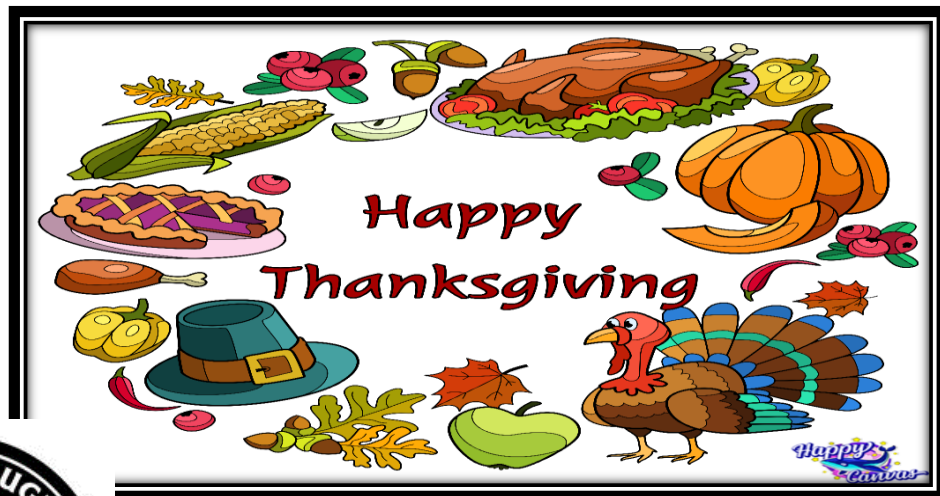
FUTURE DATES:

➤ **Tuesday's**

**November 21st & November 28th -
Chorus Practice 6:00pm @ UCC**

We will be practicing for a "Christmas Cantata!"

➤ **Thursday November 23rd**



**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. 23rd - dinner at 4:00pm.
All are welcome!**

➤ **Sunday November 26th**



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

➤ **Sunday December 3rd 1st Sunday in Advent Service**



Carrie & Evelyn Williams and 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 10th 11:00am

First stop – Pastor Tonia will host at the Parsonage with potluck appetizers, then off to the church for the potluck main course, hosted by Leanne Sekora & Pat Lofing and ending at the Morse’s for potluck desserts and carols!

Thank you for signing up for your potluck dish to bring to the appropriate house!! Reminder: Join us at all three “homes” or come to just one or two!



Join us for fun and fellowship during this Christmas Season!

You are invited to.....

“A Christmas Musical Cantata”

Directed by Sharron Bruesch and accompanied by Marge Sunvold

The Stillwater Community Chorus

(with members from Columbus, Absarokee, Rapelje, Molt and Park City)

will have two performances this December!

****Stay tuned for performance dates, times and places!!**

➤ **Friday December 15th –
Columbus Parade of Lights**

**** Watch for more information**

