

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 26th, 2023 - THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

A Service celebrating the Light of Christ throughout the Year

Prelude & Welcome

"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.

Call to Worship Hymn: "There is Hope" soloist: Pastor Kate Stulce
Columbus Congregational Church accompanied by Marge Sunvold.

Announcements & Opportunities for Serving

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

GATHERING

Litany of Light

L: Then God said, "Let there be light"

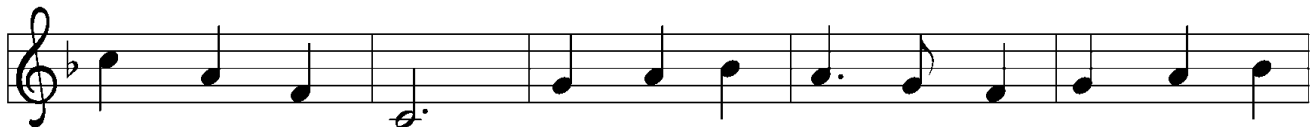
C: and there was light. Genesis 1:3

L: The light shines in the darkness,
C: and the darkness did not overcome it. *John 1:5*
L: The LORD is my light and my salvation; *Psalms 27:1*
C: God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. *1 John 1:5*
L: For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness,"
C: who has shone in our hearts. *2 Cor. 4:6*
L: For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light.
C: Live as children of light. *Ephes. 5:8*
L: Come, let us walk in the light of the LORD! *Isaiah 2:5*
C: Let the light of your face shine on us, O LORD *Psalms 4:6*
L: Let us then lay aside the works of darkness
C: and put on the armor of light. *Romans 13:12*
L: Arise, shine; for your light has come,
C: and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. *Isaiah 60:1*

Gathering Hymn: ELW #673 "God, Whose Almighty Word"



1 God, whose al - might - y word cha - os and dark - ness heard
2 Christ, who once came to bring, on your re - deem - ing wing,
3 Spir - it of truth and love, life - giv - ing, ho - ly dove,
4 Ho - ly and bless - ed three, glo - ri - ous Trin - i - ty,



and took their flight: hear us, we hum - bly pray, and where the
heal - ing and sight; health to the trou - bled mind, sight where il -
speed forth your flight; move on the wa - ter's face bear - ing the
Wis - dom, Love, Might: bound - less as o - cean's tide, roll - ing in



gos - pel day sheds not its glo - rious ray, let there be light.
lu - sions blind; oh, now to hu - man-kind let there be light.
lamp of grace, and in earth's dark - est place let there be light.
full - est pride, through the earth, far and wide, let there be light.

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, you bring light to the darkness of our hearts. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

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

We begin the church year with the Season of Advent, a time of anticipation.

Homily: "Unto Us"

Hymn: ELW #257 "O Come O Come Emmanuel" vs 1
O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.

Refrain: *Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.*

We celebrate Christmas, the coming of the Son of God.

Hymn: ELW #281 "Silent Night" vs 1 & 3
Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright.
Round yon virgin mother and child. Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from your holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth, Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

We celebrate the season of Epiphany, as the Light of Christ shines to all people.

Hymn: We Three Kings
We three kings of Orient are, bearing gifts we traverse a far,
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.

Chorus: *O, Star of wonder, Star of night, Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding, Guide us to Thy perfect light.*

We celebrate the season of Lent, a time of darkness of reflection on our own mortality.

Hymn: ELW #324 "In the Cross of Christ I Glory" vs 1 & 2
In the cross of Christ I glory, tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time.
All the light of sacred story gathers round its head sublime.

When the woes of life o'er take me, hopes deceive and fears annoy,
Never shall the cross forsake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.

We celebrate the season of Easter, as we see the light shine with the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Hymn: ELW #365 "Jesus Christ is Risen Today" vs 1 & 4
Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia! Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia! Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia! Praise eternal as his love; Alleluia!
Praise him, all you heav'nly host, Alleluia! Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

We celebrate the season of Pentecost as the Light comes to remain with us through the coming of the promised Holy Spirit.

Hymn: ELW #400 "God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind" vs 1 & 4
God of tempest, God of whirlwind, as on Pentecost descend!
Drive us out from sheltered comfort; past these walls your people send!
Sweep us into costly service, there with Christ to bear the cross, there with Christ to bear the cross!

God of passion, God unsleeping, stir in us love's restlessness!
Where the people cry in anguish, may we share your heart's distress.
Rouse us from content with evil; claim us for your kingdom's work, claim us for your kingdom's work!

We continue to grow in the light, realizing we have been called out of the darkness and now live in the light.

Reflection Hymn: 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.

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 ELW #752

P: In Your Mercy, (C) sings: "Lord, listen to your children praying" after each prayer.

P: Amen. (C) sings: "Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your spirit in this place; Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

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 and Wine and Our Gifts are brought forward.....

while we sing The Offering Hymn: ELW #689 "Praise & Thanksgiving" vs 2

God, bless the labor, we bring to serve you, that with our neighbor we may be fed.

Sowing or tilling, we would work with you, Harvesting, milling for daily bread.

Offering Prayer

Blessed are you, maker of all things. As you have entrusted us with all you have created, now gather our gifts, nourish us with this sacrament, and send us to those who hunger and thirst, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Table Setting Hymn: ELW #884 "Doxology"

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

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

We will sing the Lord's Prayer



Our Fa - ther, _____ which art in heav - en, _____



_____ Hal - low - ed be _____ Thy Name. _____

Thy king - dom come. Thy will be done in
earth, as it is in heav - en.
Give us this day our dai - ly bread. And for - give us our
debts, As we for - give our debt - ors. And lead us not in - to temp -
ta - tion; But de - liv - er us from e - vil; For Thine is the
king - dom, and the pow - er, and the glo - ry for - ev - er. _____
_____ A - men. _____

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:

“Gather Us In” ELW #532



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who
3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,
light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath-er us in, the
Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the
Give us to drink the wine of com-pas - sion, give us to eat the
Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,
bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
fire . . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

“This Little Light of Mine” ELW #677



1 This lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
2 Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
3 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;



this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;



this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine,
ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine,
Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine,



let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

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

SENDING

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

Sending Hymn: ELW #843 “Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness”



1 Praise the One who breaks the dark-ness with a lib - er - at - ing light;
2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren with a strong yet gen - tle word;
3 Praise the one true love in - car - nate: Christ, who suf - fered in our place;



praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners, turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight.
praise the One who drove out de - mons with a pierc - ing, two - edged sword.
Je - sus died and rose for man - y that we may know God by grace.



Praise the One who preached the gos - pel, heal-ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease,
Praise the One who brings cool wa - ter to the des - ert's burn-ing sand;
Let us sing for joy and glad-ness, see-ing what our God has done.



calm-ing storms and feed - ing thou-sands with the ver - y bread of peace.
from this well comes liv - ing wa - ter quench-ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
Praise the one re - deem-ing glo - ry; praise the One who makes us one.

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



Thank you in advance for staying after worship
TODAY to decorate our Church for Christmas and then
enjoy Coffee and Cookies!!

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING

A special THANK YOU for helping with this service today:

Leanne; KayDel; Bob K.; Pat L.; Leslie and Betty

November 2023 Altar Guild: Kim Behrent

December 2023 Altar Guild: Sheri Luepke

November 2023 Cleaner(s): Lance & Patty Sundberg

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

November 26th, 2023 Reader(s): Leslie Mullin

Thank you, Pastor Tonia for reading last Sunday

December 2023 Reader(s): Maureen Hemphill

November 26th, 2022 Communion Helper(s): Will someone sign up to help this Sunday?

Thank you, Denise & Steve Cowan for helping with communion last Sunday

November 26th, 2022 Usher(s): Will someone sign up to help this Sunday?

Thank you, Leslie Mullin for ushering last Sunday.

November 26th, 2022 Gate Keepers: Carrie Williams & Donna Zeigler

2023 Musician(s): Marge Sunvold & Betty Ames

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.

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 5 th Offering gratefully received	\$1,595.00
November 12 th Offering gratefully received	\$1,735.00
November 19 th Offering gratefully received	\$ 190.00

Total received so far this month \$3,520.00

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)



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

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

PLEASE KEEP IN PRAYER...

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

We offer continued prayers for:

Your healing and wisdom Lord for Bill Strickland; Bob Hemphill; 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 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 OURSELVES, 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!



FUTURE DATES:

➤ **Tuesday's**

November 28th & December 5th -

Chorus Practice 6:00pm @ UCC

We will be practicing for a “Christmas Cantata!”

➤ **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!

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, Nye, Fishtail, Molt and Park City)

will have two performances this December!

1st Performance:

****Saturday December 9th 4:00pm**

Columbus Elementary Gym

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

➤ **Friday December 15th -**
**** More Info to come...**



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, Nye, Fishtail, Molt and Park City)

will have two performances this December!

2nd performance:

**** Sunday December 17th 1:30pm**

Absarokee Cobblestone

It's that time
of year again...



KIDS' CHRISTMAS SHOPPING DAY

SUNDAY
17
DECEMBER
1 TO 3 PM



FOR STILLWATER
COUNTY KIDS IN
GRADES K-5
\$3 FOR UP
TO 5 GIFTS
STILLWATER
PAVILION



Parents enjoy
coffee & cookies
while kids shop!

Come celebrate with us....



***The 4th Day of Advent and
The Birth of our Lord Jesus Christ
Christmas Eve Service***

One service on:

Sunday December 24th @ 4:30pm