## 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, <u>PLEASE</u> 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"

<u>PLEASE FORWARD & SHARE</u> these bulletins & kits with your kids, grandkids, friends & friends'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.

Open and print the Bible WORDsearch Puzzles. Enjoy!

## 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

Our Mission: "We worship together, grow in faith,

share our faith and serve with the love of God"



#### Sunday February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – The 6<sup>th</sup> 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 all ......and also be with you.

#### **GATHERING**

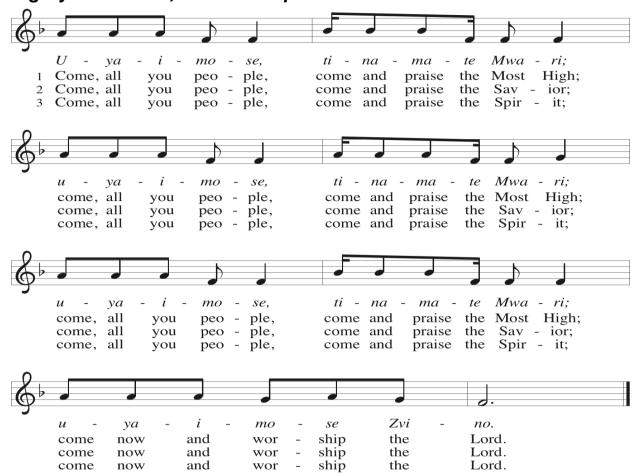
Special February Mission Offering to benefit Project Hope's Food Bank Philadelphia Eagles Fight Song and the Kansas City Chiefs Chant

#### 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: "Come, All You People"



#### Prayer of the Day

O God, the strength of all who hope in you, because we are weak mortals, we accomplish nothing good without you. Help us to see and understand the things we ought to do, and give us grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

#### Installation of Church Council & Commissioning of Altar Guild

**Council Members:** Chris Fleury; Joy Goehner; Brian Luepke; Leslie Mullin; Bill Strickland; Carrie Williams & Donna Zeigler, President. Financial Team: Amber Lofing, Treasurer and Betty Ames, Financial Secretary/Council Secretary and Pastor Tonia Fisher.

Altar Guild Members: Kim Behrent; Maureen Hemphill; Denise Cowan & Sheri Luepke

#### **WORD**

#### Hear the 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Moses said to the people: <sup>15</sup>See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. <sup>16</sup>If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. <sup>17</sup>But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, <sup>18</sup>I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. <sup>19</sup>I call heaven and earth to witness against you today for I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, <sup>20</sup>loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so you may live in the land the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

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

#### Read Psalm 119:1-8 responsively by whole verse

¹Happy are they whose way is blameless, who follow the teaching of the LORD! ²Happy are they who observe your decrees and seek you with all their hearts, ³who never do any wrong, but always walk in your ways. ⁴You laid down your commandments, so we should fully keep them. ⁵Oh, that my ways were made so direct I might keep your statutes! ⁴Then I should not be put to shame, when I regard all your commandments. ¹I will thank you with a true heart, when I have learned your righteous judgments. <sup>8</sup>I will keep your statutes; do not utterly forsake me.

#### Hear the 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1 Corinthians 3:1-9

¹Brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. ²I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, ³for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? ⁴For when one says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos," are you not merely human? ⁵What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. ⁶I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. ⁵So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. ⁶The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each. ⁶For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

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

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

#### The Gospel Acclamation:

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 5:21-37

Jesus said to the disciples: <sup>21</sup>"You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not murder'; and 'whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.' <sup>22</sup>But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, 'You fool,' you will be liable to the hell of fire. <sup>23</sup>So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, <sup>24</sup>leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. <sup>25</sup>Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. <sup>26</sup>Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny. <sup>27</sup>"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' <sup>28</sup>But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. <sup>29</sup>If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. <sup>30</sup>And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell. 31"It was also said. 'Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.' 32But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery. 33" Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.' <sup>34</sup>But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, 35 or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. <sup>36</sup>And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. <sup>37</sup>Let your word be 'Yes, Yes' or 'No, No'; anything more than this comes from the evil one."

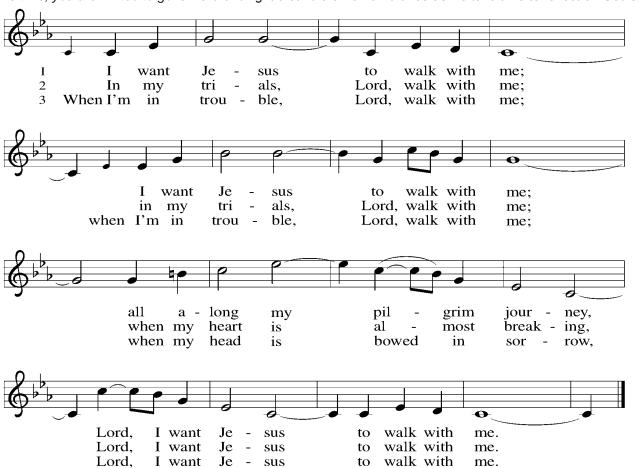
#### The Gospel of the Lord:

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

#### Sermon: "Is That All There Is?"

#### Reflection Hymn: "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me"

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



#### 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"



#### 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: "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?

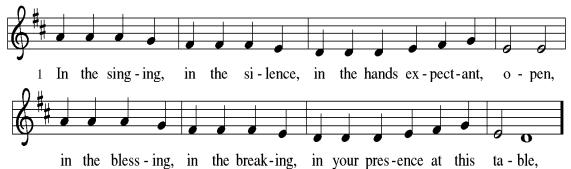
This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heaven.

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"



#### 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 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.

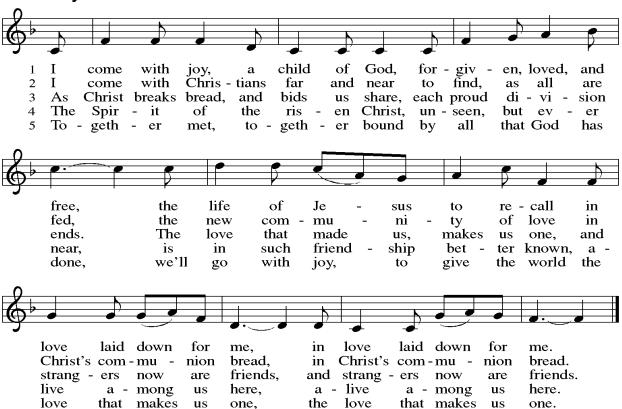
Mystery of our Faith. Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

#### Invitation to Communion

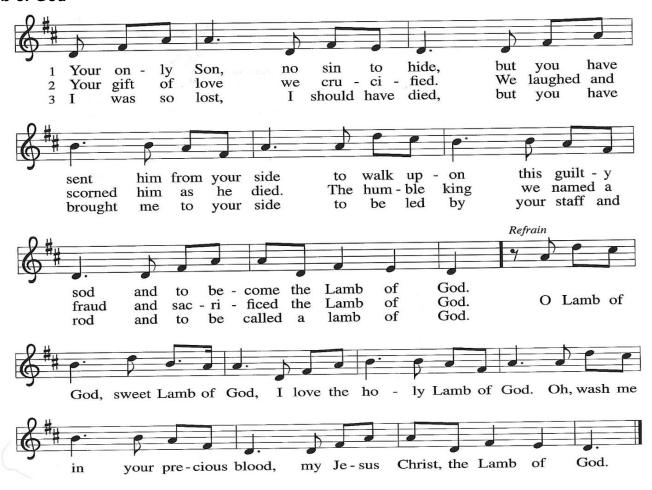
In this meal of bread and wine, we believe Christ is truly present forgiving sin, reconciling us to God and one another, and giving new life. Christ is host. Christ is the one who invites us to the table even while it is properly understood as the meal of the baptized. All are welcome at the Lord's Table.

As communion is distributed, you are invited to sing the following hymns:

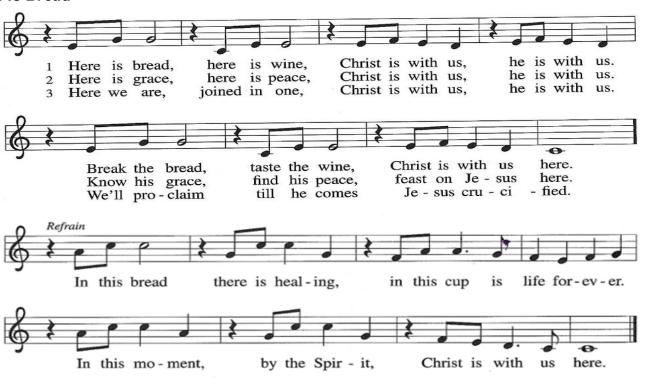
#### "I Come with Joy"



#### "Lamb of God"



#### "Here is Bread"

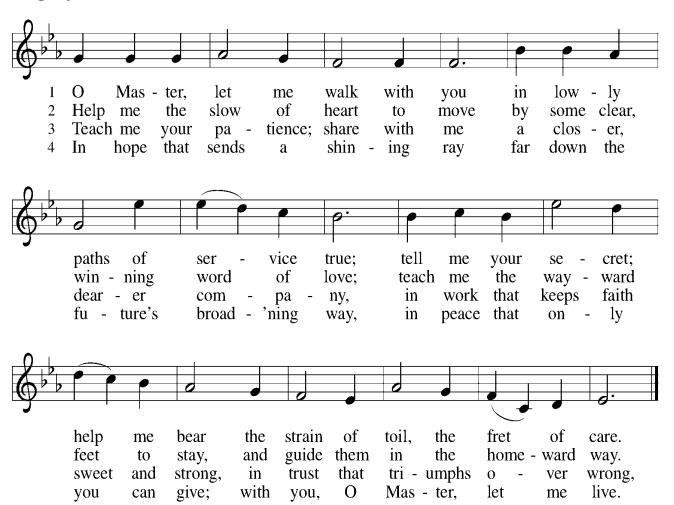


Prayer after Communion.... and we say: Amen.

#### **SENDING**

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

Sending Hymn: "O Master, Let Me Walk with You"



**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

Readings for Sunday 2/19/2023 Transfiguration of Our Lord Worship Service: Exodus 24:12-18; Psalm 2; 2 Peter 1:16-21; Matthew 17:1-9





...... to Rae Ellen Strickland for your commitment and dedication to our Church Council this past year. ...... and welcome to Bill Strickland, with council approval, for assuming her position and we look forward to serving with you.

Donna Zeigler, President.

#### A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING

February 2023 Altar Guild: Maureen Hemphill

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

February 2023 Reader(s): Leanne Sekora

February 12<sup>th</sup>,2023 Communion Helper(s): Will someone offer to help today? Thank you, Chris Fleury & Leslie Mullin for helping with communion last Sunday.

February 12<sup>th</sup>,2023 Usher(s): Will someone offer to help today?

Thank you, Joy Goehner for ushering last Sunday.

February 12th. 2023 Gate Keepers: Leslie Mullin & Bill Strickland

2023 Musician(s): Marge Sunvold & Betty Ames

#### Sunday February 12th.....



## Finally, <u>OUR</u> fun begins!

During Worship service this Sunday,
Place your change, green or check
in the "Team Jar" to vote for the team
YOU want to be the next

### **Super Bowl Champions!**



PHILADELPHIA EAGLES vs KANSAS CITY CHIEFS



After worship this Sunday, the Columbus Congregational Church invites you to their "PRE-GAME CONCERT".......



Combining literature and music, join John Lenti at 1:15pm for the inside scoop on "the life and times of Voltaire".

Then stay for the Baroque Music Montana Concert @ 2:00pm.

### NOW, are you ready for some football?

Super Bowl LVII will be broadcast on Fox at 4:30 p.m. with an opportunity to watch with more fans at the Palladium Draughthaus with food provided by the Lil' Red Wagon!!!



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

<sup>\*\*</sup> You may make a February Mission offering donation anytime during the month for this very important cause.

#### SPEAKING OF MISSIONS:

Our Montana/Wyoming ELCA Synod has expressed a need for additional funds for missions.

Mission funds and all Synod programs feel the effect of tight church budgets.

We all look for categories that can be reduced. Missions seem to be the first place that is cut.

St James strongly believes putting the needs of God's children first is what God requires of us.

A personal donation to the Synod Mission program can be made through our church treasurer, Amber, who will see that your donation gets forwarded.

Please make your check out to St. James and make a note on the memo line "Synod Mission".

Your donation will be added to your yearly giving statement.

Don't let others define us as irrelevant in the world.

"God, how much do you need this week"?

Donna Zeigler



#### **CHOIR PRACTICE STARTS FOR 2023**

Wednesday February 15<sup>th</sup> 4:00pm Columbus Congregational Church Fellowship Hall

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......

February 5<sup>th</sup> Offering gratefully received \$1,685.00 **Total received so far this month \$1.685.00** 

\*\*Our 2023 monthly budget to meet is \$8,278.07 YTD (Jan) under monthly budget (\$2,725.07)

#### 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!

<u>Tithe.ly</u> (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 February Birthday

Jennifer Gauthier 2/4; Ken Carlson 2/9; Heather Gauthier 2/10; Bill Strickland 2/10; Cindy Smith 2/15; Kolson Evig 2/17; Jim Salte 2/18; Brian Wanner 2/19; Raeli Evig 2/20; Jason Williams 2/23



Gary & Pat Lofing 2/12; Jim & Barb Salte 2/19; Jason & Holly Williams 2/29

\*\*If we have your email,



Check your inbox for yours &/or your children's



ecard!

Other members, check your mailbox!

#### PLEASE KEEP IN PRAYER...

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

#### We offer new prayers for:

Joy Goehner as she completes medical tests on Thursday. We also, pray for Pastor Tonia as she completes additional medical tests in the coming weeks. Father in Heaven please give strength and comfort to these, your children.

#### We offer continued prayers for:

Your healing and wisdom Lord for Joy Goehner's sister, Karen Clemons; LPA Allen Hansen; 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; Shane Fouhy; Jenny Hansen Cheff; 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.

#### A WONDERFUL PROJECT FOR LENT ......

Lent begins on February 22, with Ash Wednesday.



St. James' annual "PIGGY" Bank Program will be observed again during this time of Lent. Piggy banks will be available for pick-up on Sunday February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023!

"I would like to suggest we keep our Piggy Banks throughout the year following Easter. Keeping your bank will give you the opportunity to save your coin all year long. (More time, more coin. See how I slipped that in on you.) The coin will be collected after Easter as we have done in the past. Put your coin in a plastic bag with your name written on the bag. Bring your coin to the church the Sunday after Easter to be counted and a check will be sent to the ELCA Synod with our designation of where the funds should be used. St. James has always designated your gift for the purchase of farm animals for a family, sponsoring a child in school and sponsoring a woman in gardening classes.

Your coin makes a difference. Jesus said, "Feed my sheep". You are feeding God's people."

Donna Zeigler



Thank you, Donna for starting this opportunity again to help ELCA Good Gifts and Thank you all for taking this challenge!



## FAT TUESDAY Community Pancake & Sausage BUFFET SUPPER

Pancakes, Sausage Fruit, Conversation

Tuesday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, 5:00 – 7:00pm Columbus Congregational Church

Free will donation for supper, PLUS Raffle prize drawings.

\*\* See posters on our bulletin board or open attachments to this email.



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

## February 22<sup>nd</sup> @ 7:00pm WEDNESDAY 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 1<sup>st</sup> - March 29<sup>th</sup>.

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

## HOLY WEEK



## April 2<sup>nd</sup> 9:30am

Hosanna!

Blessed be the King that cometh in the name of the Lord: peace in heaven, and glory in the highest.

Luke 19:38, KJV

No midweek Lenten Service on Wednesday 4/5.



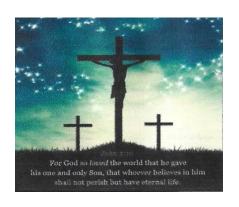


SERVICE - APRIL 6<sup>TH</sup>
7 PM
Thursday @ COLUMBUS CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH

## Good Friday Service – April 7th

@ St. James 7pm

Through the remembrance of Good Friday, we come to a fuller realization of the gracious gift of God and are able to more fully celebrate Easter Morning!





Come Celebrate! Easter Sunday Services April 9<sup>th</sup>

Community Service East Hill – Columbus 7am

Pastries and Fruit (before our service 8:30)

Provided by the Church Council Members

St. James' Service 9:30am





#### **BIG BROWN PAPER BAGS**

We have all seen these large brown sacks you can fill with fruit and vegetables in the produce department at the IGA Supermarket, right? Have you passed by thinking, "I can't use that much produce at one time". Think again. Think about the items listed on the eligible list of produce that qualify for this promotion. Which items could you use for yourself, and which items might your neighbor or friend enjoy. Wala!! You have a full sack of produce, some for yourself and some for a friend for \$20.00. I am not a salesperson for IGA, but what a good way to share with a friend.

You are increasing your produce intake and providing a gift for someone you care about. Another option is taking a sack full of fresh produce to Project Hope. Project Hope always attempts to include fresh produce in the food boxes they give out during the month.

What a loving, caring gift you are giving another person.

Happy "Brown Bag" Shopping!

Donna Zeigler

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

#### REMINDERS:

- > Every Tuesday Bible Study of the following Sunday's Lessons 2:00pm
- > 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 We hope you are enjoying the attached Bible Wordsearch Puzzles as well.
- 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 embroideretts 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:**

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 -BAD ART!
February 11<sup>th</sup> ....... Hosting "Native-American Up-Cycling"
with Buck Hitswithastick: from 2:00pm to 4:00pm. Everyone welcome.

Answers: This week's





