

WELCOME to St. James Lutheran Church

For the “Love of One Another” at St. James, we will continue to take every reasonable precaution to protect those who worship in-church each Sunday by honoring the 3 W’s.....

“WATCH” our physical distancing

“WEAR” our masks properly and for the entire service

“WASH” and/or sanitize our hands

Please, if you do not feel comfortable to attend in person, you have the opportunity to watch FB Live or a recorded version later in the day.

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

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!
[FB Search: Saint James Lutheran Church of Columbus, Montana](#)

We appreciate hearing from all of you joining us online. We would LOVE for you to share your insights or leave us a greeting. We are blessed to count you among those who worship at St. James Lutheran Church each Sunday morning.

Coming this week and beyond....

- Bible Study - Tuesday February 16th @ 2pm
- Watch Pastor Tonia’s a “Word on Wednesday” live on FB February 17th or recorded on our FB Page or catch up on past letters you may have missed attached to the February weekly preparing for worship email.
- ***Ash Wednesday Service February 17th 7pm @ St. James Lutheran Church***
- All future Wednesday Lenten Services will be recorded, uploaded and available to watch either on our FB Page or on YouTube (*you will be given the date, time and link each week*)

FYI.....

Again, we will **NOT** be gathering for in-person weekly Wednesday Lenten Services at the church.

***1st Official Notice (according to our By-laws) of our
upcoming Annual Congregational Meeting for St. James –
Sunday, February 28th,***

immediately after our worship service.

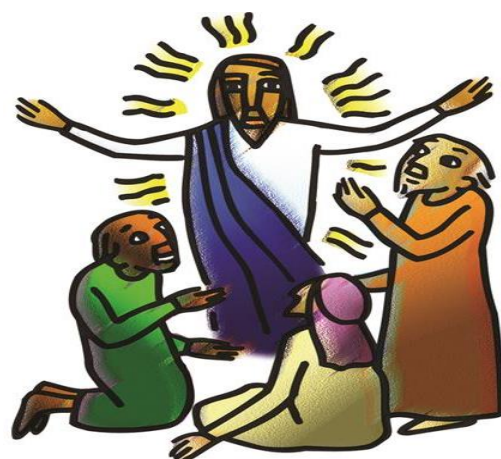
This meeting will be available by **Zoom for those of you at home.

*****Watch for an invitation to join and instructions
for those of you not familiar.***

St. James Lutheran Church

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

**February 14th, 2021 –
Transfiguration of Our Lord Sunday**



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

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

Welcome

Announcements & Opportunities for Serving

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

GATHERING

Confession & Forgiveness

Holy God, you search us and know us. You are acquainted with all our ways. We confess that our hearts are burdened by sin—our own sins and the broken systems that bind us. We turn inward, failing to follow your outward way of love. We distrust those who are not like us. We exploit the earth and its resources and fail to consider generations to come. Forgive us, gracious God, for all we have done and left undone. Even before the words are on our tongues, you know them; receive them in your divine mercy. Amen.

Assurance of God's Love

Gathering Hymn: "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.

Prayer of the Day:

Almighty God, the resplendent light of your truth shines from the mountaintop into our hearts. Transfigure us by your beloved Son, and illumine the world with your image, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

Hear the 1st Reading: 2 Kings 2:1-12

¹Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. ²Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So, they went down to Bethel. ³The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent." ⁴Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So, they came to Jericho. ⁵The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent." ⁶Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So, the two of them went on. ⁷Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. ⁸Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground. ⁹When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." ¹⁰He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." ¹¹As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of

them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. ¹²Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

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

Hear Psalm 50

¹The mighty one, God the LORD, has spoken; calling the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting. ²Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty, God shines forth in glory. ³Our God will come and will not keep silence; with a consuming flame before, and round about a raging storm. ⁴God calls the heavens and the earth from above to witness the judgment of the people. ⁵"Gather before me my loyal followers, those who have made a covenant with me and sealed it with sacrifice." ⁶The heavens declare the rightness of God's cause, for it is God who is judge.

Hear the 2nd Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

³Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. ⁶For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

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

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

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

Hear the Gospel: Mark 9:2-9

²Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, ³and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. ⁴And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. ⁵Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." ⁶He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. ⁷Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" ⁸Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them anymore, but only Jesus. ⁹As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

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

Sermon: "Butterflies"

Donna Zeigler, LPA

Hymn for Reflection: "My Faith Looks Up to Thee"



1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,
3 While life's dark maze I tread and griefs a - round me spread,
4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, when death's cold, sul - len stream



Sav - ior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, oh, may my
be thou my guide; bid dark-ness turn to day, wipe sor-row's
shall o'er me roll; blest Sav - ior, then, in love fear and dis -



guilt a - way, oh, let me from this day be whol - ly thine!
love to thee pure, warm, and change-less be, a liv - ing fire!
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.
trust re-move; oh, bear me safe a - bove, a ran - somed soul!

Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven. He is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People:

Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Passing of the Peace

MEAL

....we thank you for your faithful generosity to St. James in sharing your tithes and offerings which allows us to do God's work with our hands.

Offering Prayer

O God, receive these gifts as you receive us: like a mother receives her child, with arms open wide. Nourish us anew in your tender care, and empower us in faithful service to tend to others with this same love, through Jesus Christ, our saving grace. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

SENDING

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

Sending Hymn: "Shine, Jesus Shine"

Refrain

Shine, Je - sus, shine, fill this land with the Fa - ther's glo - ry;
blaze, Spir - it, blaze, set our hearts on fire.
Flow, riv - er, flow, flood the na - tions with grace and mer - cy;
send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!

1 Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing, in the midst of the
2 As we gaze on your king - ly bright - ness, so our fac - es dis -
dark - ness, shin - ing; Je - sus, light of the world, shine up - on us,
play your like - ness, ev - er chang - ing from glo - ry to glo - ry,
set us free - by the truth you now bring us.
mir - rored - here, may our lives tell your sto - ry.

Shine on me, shine on me:
Shine on me, shine on me:

Refrain

Dismissal:

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ as we go out to reflect the love of God.

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



Pastor Tonia is basking in the sun in Cannon Beach and enjoying her time with her family. Thank you, Donna for presiding at our worship service.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING

February 2021 Altar Guild: Kim Behrent

February 2021 Cleaner(s): Leanne Sekora, Pat Lofing, Leslie Mullin & Betty Ames

February Gate Keepers: Donna Zeigler, Carrie Williams, Steve & Denise Cowan and
Larry & Joy Goehner

Musician(s): Marge Sunvold and Betty Ames



*...has arrived in Columbus and it's here to stay for a while! A big **THANK YOU** to the angel(s) who braved the cold and shoveled the sidewalk and road this week!*

*If anyone would be willing to help during future storms, please let a council member or Pastor Tonia know. We can come up with a schedule. **Thank you!***

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

PLEASE KEEP IN PRAYER...

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

We offer continued prayers for:

Your continued healing God for Leslie's parents, Les and Renae Kercher; Sheri Todd; Randy & KayDel Shelton; Bill Fisher, Pastor Tonia's brother; Denise Cowan; Roger Mullin; Bill Strickland; Gary Lofing and Jenny Steffenson. We lift up those living with cancer: Barb Potzman; Delbert Goehner; Dennis Gauthier; Arvid Barnam, Les Lane and Jim Wilson

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

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

"Your faith in God's mission for St. James is unshakeable."

Thank you for your prayers and generosity.

May the Lord bless you and give you peace.

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

1. Mail your offering to the church at St. James Lutheran Church, PO Box 356, Columbus, MT, 59019
2. Take your envelope offering to Pastor Tonia's parsonage and put in the designated box on her front porch.
3. Stop in at your bank and arrange a monthly auto pay transaction.
4. Give online through **Tithe.ly**, a giving app endorsed by the ELCA. Each transaction carries a small fee. Your gift is safe / secure and goes directly to our church or ministry. Plus, you'll be able to track all your gifts, setup recurring, and more!

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

Remember that Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever

(Hebrews 13:8).



Mission Offering for February 2021 benefits... Project Hopes' "Food Bank Program"

♥ *Happy Valentines Day* ♥

*Would you like the opportunity to serve on
St. James' church council?*

Your council is accepting nominations for yourself or
for the name of another member to serve.

Please let a council member or Pastor Tonia know of your interest.

We would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Pastor Tonia Fisher toniafisherclarkmt@gmail.com

Church Council Members

Betty Ames, President bytames@yahoo.com

Steven Cowan, Vice-President denisecowan48@yahoo.com

Joy Goehner; Brian Luepke;

Harold Riensche; Carrie Williams; Donna Zeigler

Church Financial Team:

Amber Lofing, Financial Treasurer & interim Financial / Council Secretary

****See your church directory for all council members phone #'s and emails**