

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 (406) 321-5100

Leader: Pastor Tonia Fisher

Email: toniafisherclarkmt@gmail.com

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



Sunday February 18th, 2024 – 1st Sunday in Lent

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 with you.*

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

GATHERING

Lenten Litany

P: In the dry wildernesses of our lives, in the days of heat and thirst, you offer us living water,

All: Thank you, gracious and generous God.

*P: When we begin to doubt your presence, and grumble because we feel Your love is unreliable, you
offer us living water, All: Thank you, gracious and generous God.*

*P: When life's regrets and the bad choices we have made leave us feeling excluded and unworthy,
you offer us living water, All: Thank you, gracious and generous God.*

*P: When circumstances, or the inhumanity of others, have left us alone and wounded, you offer us
living water, All: Thank you, gracious and generous God.*

P: We thank you and praise you, O God, so however we may thirst, whatever we may need to satisfy our souls, you offer it freely and abundantly in Christ; All: So, we go down to drink deep of the living water and, as we draw from your wells, we seek to pass the cup to others who, like us, are thirsty for Your grace. Thank You gracious and generous God.

Gathering Hymn: "Down to the River to Pray"



As I went down to the riv - er to
pray, stud - y - ing a - bout that good old ___ way, and ___
who shall wear the star - ry crown? Good Lord,
show me the way. O sis - ters,
let's go down, ___ let's go down, ___ come on
down. ___ O sis - ters, let's go down, ___
down to the riv - er to ___ pray!

Confession & Forgiveness

Holy God, we confess we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways which silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.

Assurance of God's Love

Service of the Lenten Candles

Lenten Choral Introit -



Re - mem - ber and re - joice, re - newed by__ floods of grace.

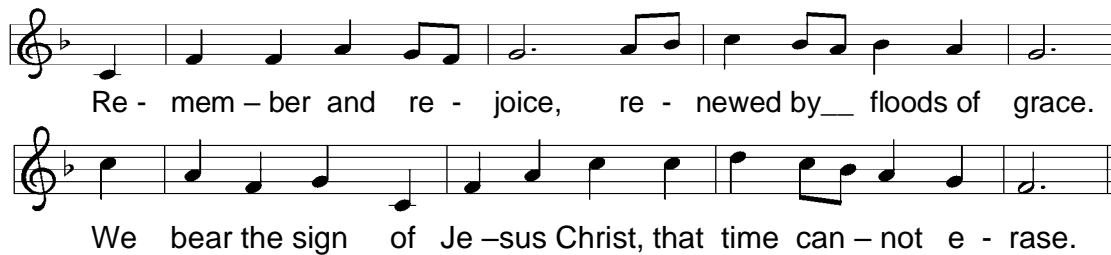
We bear the sign of Je - sus Christ, that time can - not e - rase.

Candle Service Devotion for this 1st Sunday of Lent

EXTINGUISHING OF FIRST LENTEN CANDLE

Let us pray... **Loving God, as we journey through this holy season of Lent, give us strength and courage to make the changes that are needed in our lives. Open our hearts and minds to your steadfast presence & help us to put our trust in you. Amen.**

Lenten Choral Introit -



Re - mem - ber and re - joice, re - newed by__ floods of grace.

We bear the sign of Je - sus Christ, that time can - not e - rase.

Prayer of the Day

Holy God, heavenly Father, in the waters of the flood you saved the chosen, and in the wilderness of temptation you protected your Son from sin. Renew us in the gift of baptism. May your holy angels be with us, so the wicked foe may have no power over us, 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: Genesis 9:8-17

⁸God said to Noah and to his sons with him, ⁹“As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, ¹⁰and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. ¹¹I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” ¹²God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: ¹³I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, ¹⁵I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. ¹⁶When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” ¹⁷God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

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

Read Psalm 25:1-10 responsively by whole verse

¹To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul. ²**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me.** ³Let none who look to you be put to shame; rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous. ⁴**Show me your ways, O LORD, and teach me your paths.** ⁵Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long. ⁶**Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.** ⁷Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD. ⁸**You are**



blood of Christ our king: heirs of sal - va - tion, trust - ing his
 tomb with Christ our king: one with his ris - ing, freed and for -
 sign of Christ our king: born of the Spir - it, we are God's



prom - ise, faith - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.
 giv - en, thank - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.
 chil - dren; joy - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.

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

P: O healing river, **ALL:** pour down Your waters and heal Your people.

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 #336 "Lamb of God"



Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, but you have



sent him from your side, to walk up - on this guil - ty



sod and to be - come the Lamb of God. *Refrain:* O Lamb of



God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the ho - ly Lamb of God. Oh, wash me



in your pre - cious blood, my Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Offering Prayer

Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. **Bless these gifts we have gathered so all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name. Amen.**

Table Setting Hymn: ELW #592 "Just as I Am, without One Plea"

Ju - st as I a - m, with - out one plea, but th - at thy blood was
shed for me, a - nd that thou bidd'st me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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:

ELW #335 "Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross"



1 Je - sus, keep me near the cross, there's a pre - cious foun - tain;
2 Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, love and mer - cy found me;
3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes be - fore me;
4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,



free to all, a heal - ing stream flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.
there the bright and morn - ing star sheds its beams a - round me.
help me walk from day to day with its shad - ow o'er me.
till I reach the gold - en strand just be - yond the riv - er.

Refrain



In the cross, in the cross be my glo - ry ev - er;

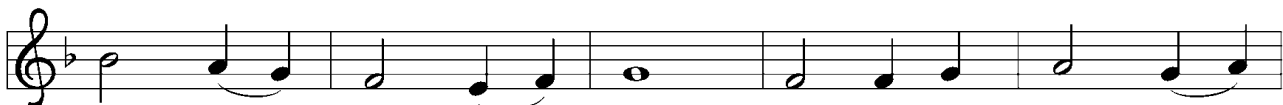


till my ran - somed soul shall find rest be - yond the riv - er.

ELW #803 "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the
2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the
3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a



prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I
death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that
love flow min - gled down. Did e'er such love and
pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.
sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

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

SENDING

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

Sending Hymn: ELW #423 "Shall We Gather at the River"



- 1 Shall we gath - er at the riv - er, where bright an - gel feet have trod,
- 2 On the mar - gin of the riv - er, wash - ing up its sil - ver spray,
- 3 Ere we reach the shin - ing riv - er, lay we ev - 'ry bur - den down;
- 4 Soon we'll reach the shin - ing riv - er, soon our pil - grim - age will cease;



with its crys - tal tide for - ev - er flow - ing by the throne of God?
we will walk and wor - ship ev - er, all the hap - py gold - en day.
grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, and pro - vide a robe and crown.
soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er with the mel - o - dy of peace.

Refrain



Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, the beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful riv - er;




gath - er with the saints at the riv - er that flows by the throne of God.

Dismissal: Go in peace. Share Your Bread. Thanks be to God.

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

Here is the FINAL You gave the  49ers: \$75

**You gave (+ we added Pastor Tonia's) to decide that the winner from
St. James was the  Chiefs \$126**

AND THE KANSAS CITY CHIEFS ARE THE 2024 Super Bowl Champions!

BUT, as we said.....

the **REAL WINNER** is the **Columbus Senior Center**, receiving **\$201** from our fun!!



The **February Mission Offering** supports the effort of **Columbus Senior Center** to serve nourishing meals in our community of Columbus. In December 2023, the Senior Center served 349 meals to members at the center. In addition to in house meals, the Center prepared 356 meals for home delivery or picked up at the Center. The Senior Center not only has a cost for food but there are costs for items necessary to prepare and serve those meals and upkeep costs at the Center.

WELL DONE & Thank you for your generosity!

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING

February 2024 Altar Guild: Maureen Hemphill

February 2024 Cleaner(s): Leanne Sekora and Pat Lofing

February 2024 Reader(s): Pat Lashley

February 18th, 2024 Communion Helper(s):

Thank you, Maureen Hemphill & Bill Strickland for serving communion last Sunday.

February 18th, 2024 Usher(s):

Thank you, Leslie Mullin for helping to usher last Sunday.

February 18th, 2024 Gate Keepers: Bill Strickland & Pat Lashley

2024 Musician(s): Marge Sunvold & Betty Ames



Thank you, Donna, Pat Lashley and Betty for the delicious soup, crackers, cheese, fruit & cookies during our "soup"er bowl coffee hour!

OPPORTUNITIES to SERVE at ST. JAMES.....

*Would you consider helping each Sunday with **Ushering**, being the **Reader**, assisting during **Communion** w/Pastor Tonia, being a member on the **Altar Guild**, OR*

*offering to **Clean** our church (with another family) one or two times per year?*

If you are interested in helping, please let Pastor Tonia or Bill S. know!!

More detailed information on our opportunities may be found on our website:

www.lutheranchurchcolumbusmt.org Click on the "Serve With Us" tab. Thanks!

*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 KayDel's niece, Eileen; Pamela Shultz; Pastor Tonia; Joy & Larry Goehner; Jim Dickey; Merridy Gauthier; LaNita Maurer; Steve Cowan; Ken & Pete Hegg; Gary Lofing; Joan Elser; and Bonny Rouse;

Those living with cancer: Father Fenton; Kaci Thomason; Brian Wanner; Bob Rouane; Aracelii Enano; Ashley Foster; Jenny Hansen Cheff; Shane Fouhy 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 & 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.***



Happy February Birthday

Ken Carlson 2/9; Bill Strickland 2/10; Cindy Smith 2/15;
Jim Salte 2/18; Brian Wanner 2/19; Jason Williams 2/23



Happy February Anniversary

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



****If we have your email,
Check your inbox for the monthly ecard!
Other members, check your mailbox!**

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.....

February 4 th Offering gratefully received:	\$1,440.00
February 11 th Offering gratefully received:	\$1,505.00
Total received so far this month	\$2,945.00

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)

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. 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 Library information, see the "Table Posters" at St. James.



Join the fun each week.....

STORYTIME - EVERY WEDNESDAY @ 10AM

B I N G O is EVERY WEDNESDAY @ 1pm!

Crochet and Knit club Every Saturday starting Jan 6th from 10 – 11:30am



A WONDERFUL PROJECT FOR LENT

St. James' annual "PIGGY" Bank Program will be observed again during this time of Lent.

Piggy banks will be available for pick-up any Sunday or you may use your own zip-lock baggie!

Start saving your coins for the "Good Gifts" cause. 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. Thank you for your generosity.

UPCOMING 2024 DATES:

- **February 18th – 1st Sunday of Lent**
- **February 21st**- Our 1st Mid-week Lent Service with Soup & Bread Fellowship
Meal starts 5:30pm / Service approx.6:15pm @ Columbus Congregational Church.
****THANK YOU for signing up for soup & bread**
2/21 - Soup: Maureen Hemphill / _____ ?? Can someone bring ??
Bread: Marge Sunvold / _____ ?? Can someone bring ??
- **February 25th – 2nd Sunday of Lent**
Church Council Meeting immediately after worship
- **February 27th – 1st Chorale Practice @ UCC** 6pm to practice for the upcoming Spring Concert TBA.
- **February 28th - Our 2nd Mid-week Lent Service with Soup & Bread Fellowship**
Meal starts 5:30pm / Service approx.6:15pm @ St. James Lutheran Church.
****THANK YOU for signing up for soup & bread**
2/28 - Soup: Kim Behrent & Bill & Rae Ellen Strickland
Bread: Bill & Rae Ellen Strickland / _____ ??
- **March 3rd - 3rd Sunday of Lent** This is "STAY & INVITE" Sunday!
Pat Lashley INVITES your family or your "pew neighbor" to STAY after worship **TODAY** for fellowship & laughter!

Sunday March 10th, 2024 Spring Forward Time Change

Tuesday March 19th, 2024 1st Day of Spring

Palm Sunday March 24th, 2024

Holy Week: Maunday Thursday Service - March 28th, 2024 @ UCC 7pm

Good Friday Service - March 29th, 2024 @ St. James 7pm

Easter Sunday is March 31st, 2024.

Sunrise Service (east hill) 7am

Brunch @ St. James 8am

(compliments of the church council)

EASTER SERVICE @ 9:30am

