

WELCOME to St. James Lutheran Church

We are having in-church worship service this
Sunday February 7th @ 9:30am.

We continue to be honoring the 3 W's.....

“WATCH” our physical distancing –

We have designated every-other pew open in the sanctuary for us to sit in to make sure we are still distanced properly.



“WEAR” masks for the **“Love of One Another”**

We want you to wear your mask **PROPERLY** during the entire worship service. This will allow us to sing quietly & safely.

“WASH” and/or sanitize our hands

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.

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.

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 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....

- Bible Study - Tuesday February 9th @ 2pm
- Watch Pastor Tonia's a "Word on Wednesday" live on FB February 3rd 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.
- Watch for more information and an invitation to join Pastor Tonia's Wednesday Zoom Social –Tonia's Fireside Chat @ 7pm. If you do not receive an invitation and would like to join, email Pastor Tonia toniafisherclarkmt@gmail.com and she will send you the invite.

St. James Lutheran Church

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

**February 7th, 2021 –
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany**



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

Welcome to Worship! We are glad you have joined us here at St. James Lutheran Church.

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: "When Pain of the World Surrounds Us"



1 When pain of the world sur - rounds us with dark - ness and de -
2 We see with . . fear and trem - bling our ach - ing world in
3 The church is a ho - ly ves - sel the liv - ing wa - ters
4 We praise you . . for our jour - ney and your a - bun - dant



spair, when search - ing just con - founds us with
need, con - fess - ing to each oth - er our
fill to nour - ish all the peo - ple, God's
grace, your sav - ing word that guid - ed a



false hopes ev - 'ry - where, when lives are starved for mean - ing and
waste - ful - ness and greed. May we with stead - fast car - ing the
pur - pose to ful - fill. May we with hum - ble cour - age be
strug - gling hu - man race. O God, with all cre - a - tion, your



des - ti - ny is bare, we are called to fol - low Je - sus and
hun - gry chil - dren feed. We are called to fol - low Je - sus and
o - pen to God's will. We are called to fol - low Je - sus and
fu - ture we em - brace. We are called to fol - low Je - sus and



let God's heal - ing flow through us.
let God's jus - tice flow through us.
let God's Spir - it flow through us.
let God's chang - es flow through us.

Prayer of the Day:

Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

Hear the 1st Reading: Isaiah 40:21-31

²¹Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? ²²It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in; ²³who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing. ²⁴Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble. ²⁵To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. ²⁶Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing. ²⁷Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"? ²⁸Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. ²⁹He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. ³⁰Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; ³¹but those who

wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

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

Hear Psalm 147:1-11,20c

¹Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God! How pleasant it is to honor God with praise! ²The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem, and gathers the exiles of Israel. ³The LORD heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds. ⁴The LORD counts the number of the stars and calls them all by their names. ⁵Great is our LORD and mighty in power; there is no limit to God's wisdom. ⁶The LORD lifts up the lowly, but casts the wicked to the ground. ⁷Sing to the LORD| with thanksgiving; make music upon the harp to our God, ⁸who covers the heavens with clouds and prepares rain for the earth, making grass to grow upon the mountains. ⁹God provides food for the cattle and for the young ravens when they cry. ¹⁰God is not impressed by the might of a horse, and has no pleasure in the speed of a runner, ¹¹but finds pleasure in those who fear the LORD, in those who await God's steadfast love. ^{20c} Hallelujah!

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 1:29-39

²⁹As soon as Jesus and the disciples left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. ³¹He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them. ³²That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. ³³And the whole city was gathered around the door. ³⁴And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. ³⁵In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. ³⁶And Simon and his companions hunted for him. ³⁷When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." ³⁸He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." ³⁹And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

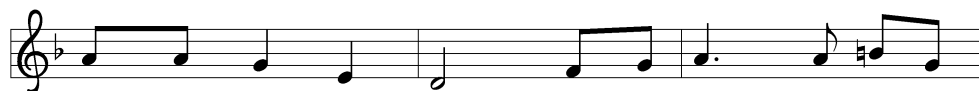
The Gospel of the Lord: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon: "Have You Not Heard?"

Hymn for Reflection: "Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery"



1 Tree of Life and awe - some mys - t'ry, in your
3 Christ, you lead and we shall fol - low, stum - bling



death we are re - born; though you die in all of
though our steps may be; one with you in joy and



his - t'ry, still you rise with ev - 'ry morn, still you
sor - row, we the riv - er, you the sea, we the



rise with ev - 'ry morn.
riv - er, you the sea.

Extra Verse

In our call to be a blessing, may we be a blessing true;
May we live and die confessing, Christ as Lord of all we do. Christ as Lord of all we do.

Extra Verse

Give us eyes to see you clearly; Make us children of your light.
Give us hearts to live more nearly, as your gospel shining bright. As your gospel shining bright.

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 faithfulness to St. James in sharing your tithes and offerings and allowing 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.

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:

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

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

The Lord's Prayer

Invitation to Communion

Communion will look a little different during our season of Covid-19.

It will still be the Lord's supper.

We will partake the body of Christ with Pastor.

We will partake the blood of Christ with Pastor.

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

SENDING

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

Sending Hymn: “Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love”

Refrain



Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love, show



us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you.



1 Kneels at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - es their feet,
2 Neigh-bors are wealth-y and poor, var - ied in col - or and race,
3 These are the ones we will serve, these are the ones we will love;
4 Kneel at the feet of our friends, si - lent - ly wash - ing their feet:



Refrain

mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.
neigh-bors are near - by and far a - way.
all these are neigh - bors to us and you.
this is the way we will live with you.

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*

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

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



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 new prayers for:

We pray for healing for Leslie's parents, Les and Renae Kercher, who just tested positive for Covid. Sheri Todd as she recovers from surgery on her ankle.

Lord, we bring Sheri, Les and Renae before You and give thanks for their healing.

The family and friends of Glenn Perry, nephew of Cindy Smith as they mourn his passing.

We offer continued prayers for:

Please continue to pray for Randy & KayDel Shelton. Bring peace and complete healing from Covid. Your continued healing God for 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.

As we pray for those living with cancer, we give thanks that Donna Zeigler has just completed her 5-year anniversary from initial cancer surgery. Praise God.

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).