



TO those of you who open this email.....

Sing this "Spring Ahead" Song on Saturday, compliments of

Pastor Tonia. You wouldn't want to be LATE for Church!! ☺

Time Change Song

Spring: God of sleep, and God of slum-ber, help us not be late, we ask:

chang-ing clocks one for - ward num - ber, may we not for - get this task.

Choir di - rec - tors, preach - ers, teach - ers, all will bless your ho - ly

name, if to Sun-day church on time we came.

WORDS: Dean McIntyre, 1995
MUSIC: John Hughes, 1907

CWM RHONDDA
87.87.89

WELCOME to 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 March 10th, 2024 – 4th 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"



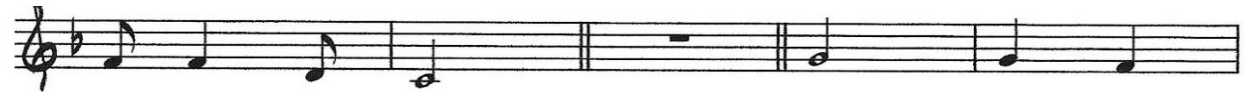
As I went down to the riv - er to



pray, stud - y - ing a - bout that good old ___ way, and ___



who shall wear the robe and crown? Good Lord,



show me the way. O mo - thers ,



let's go down, ___ let's go down, ___ come on



down. ___ O mo - thers, let's go down, ___



down to the riv - er to ___ pray! ** Repeat once

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

Candle Service Devotion for this 4th Sunday of Lent

EXTINGUISHING OF FOURTH LENTEN CANDLE

Let us pray... Loving God, we thank You for You are with us, and we may call upon You no matter where we are, or what we are feeling. Keep us mindful of Your presence and trusting in Your promise— knowing You are working with us in the moment-by-moment unfolding of our lives. Amen.

Lenten Choral Introit -



God, bless us by yo-ur grace; re - mind us - of your care.



Re - new- ing Spir - it, fill us now, in - spire our - work, our prayer.

Prayer of the Day

O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son You lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, so all our deeds may reflect your love, 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: Numbers 21:4-9

⁴From Mount Hor the Israelites set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. ⁵The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." ⁶Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. ⁷The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." ⁹So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

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

Read Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22 responsively by verse

¹Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good, for God's mercy endures forever. ²Let the redeemed of the LORD proclaim that God redeemed them from the hand of the foe, ³gathering them in from the lands; from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south. ¹⁷Some were fools and took rebellious paths; through their sins they were afflicted. ¹⁸They loathed all manner of food and drew near to death's door. ¹⁹Then in their trouble they cried to the LORD and you delivered them from their distress. ²⁰You sent forth your word and healed them and rescued them from the grave. ²¹Let them give thanks to you, LORD, for your steadfast love and your wonderful works for all people. ²²Let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving and tell of your deeds with shouts of joy.

Hear the 2nd Reading: Ephesians 2:1-10

¹You were dead through the trespasses and sins ²in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. ³All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. ⁴But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us ⁵even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—⁶and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷so in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—⁹not the result of works, so no one may boast. ¹⁰For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

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

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

The Gospel Acclamation for Lent: ELW #151

We sing:

Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful.

slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

The Gospel according to John:

We sing the response after the announcement: **“Glory to you, O Lord”**

John 3:14-21

Jesus said: ¹⁴Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵so whoever believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶For God so loved the world he gave his only Son, so everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. ¹⁷Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹And this is the judgment, the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so their deeds may not be exposed. ²¹But those who do what is true come to the light, so it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

The Gospel of the Lord:

We sing the response after the conclusion: **“Praise to you, O Christ”**

Sermon: “High and Lifted Up”

Reflection Hymn: ELW #666 “What Wondrous Love is This”



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when
3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to
4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and



won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this
I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when I was sink - ing down
God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,



that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my
be - neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my
who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will
I'll sing God's love for me, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?
soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.
sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.
on, I'll sing on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

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 #705 "God of Grace and God of Glory"



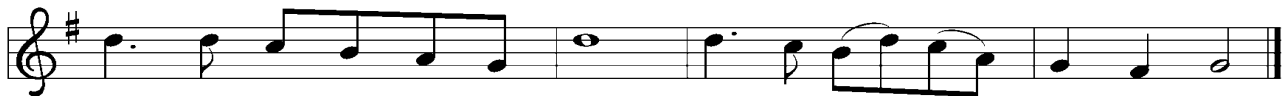
1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple
 2 Lo! The hosts of e - vil round us scorn the Christ, as -
 3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils



pour your pow'r; crown your an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry;
 sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us
 your con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,
 we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion



bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
 free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
 rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

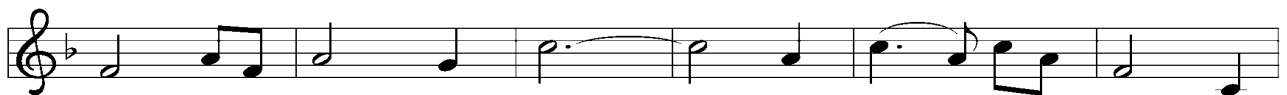


for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
 lest we miss your king - dom's goal, lest we miss your king - dom's goal.
 serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

ELW #779 "Amazing Grace"



1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
 have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found; was blind, but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

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.



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*

March Mission Offering.....

benefits Rocky Boy Parsonage Fund

A pastor is being called to serve the Rocky Boy congregation. The congregation needs to replace pastor housing because the former housing is "unlivable". The Synod is asking for individual and congregational donations toward replacing the needed pastor housing at Rocky Boy. Our March Mission giving will be forwarded to the Synod designated for the Rocky Boy Parsonage.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING

March 2024 Altar Guild: Kim Behrent

March 2024 Cleaner(s): Pete & Amber Lofing and Betty Ames

March 2024 Reader(s): Randy or KayDel Shelton

March 10th, 2024 Communion Helper(s):

Thank you, Kim Behrent & Leanne Sekora for serving communion last Sunday.

March 10th, 2024 Usher(s):

Thank you, Bill Strickland for helping to usher last Sunday

March 10th, 2024 Gate Keepers: **Bill Strickland and Mina Morse**

2024 Musician(s): Marge Sunvold & Betty Ames

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 new prayers for

Pat Lashley who continues to recover from her recent back surgery at her home in Park City with help from her family and friends.

The family and friends of Patty Sundberg as they mourn the death of Patty's mother, Joan Elser. Joan's services will be July 29th, 2024 at the Dutton United Methodist Church, Dutton, MT

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 and Bonny Rouse;

Those living with cancer: 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 & overs, as well as their spouses and children.



Happy MARCH Birthday

Kristi Lofing 3/6; Morgan Radford 3/11; Pat Lofing 3/17; Greg Lofing 3/17; Jo Lind 3/19; Holly Williams 3/19; Bob Hemphill 3/25; Irmgard Houghton 3/25; Gary Lofing 3/29; Sheri Luepke 3/31



Happy MARCH Anniversary

Bill & Karen McDonald 3/6



****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.....

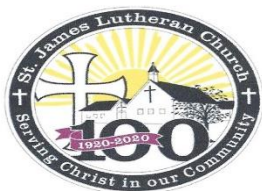
March 3rd Offering gratefully received: \$1,355.00
Total received so far this month \$1,355.00

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](https://tithe.ly).

[Tithe.ly](https://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)



Email with important
monthly information
*watch your inbox

March Calendar of Events Kids March Coloring Calendar

Review information from February 25th, 2024 Council Meeting:

Jan. Meeting Minutes; Jan. Monthly Donation Deposits; Jan. Profit & Loss; YTD Comparison View

Note: You should have received your first Calendar & Council Chatter email on Wed. 3/6/24.

In the future, this information will be emailed immediately after our Monthly Council Meeting.

Reminder - all documents reflect the previous month from the council meeting date.

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.
 - ~ The Columbus Senior Center exercise class at 10:30am

- 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
- 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
- Every Thursday we are invited to join:
 - ~ The Columbus Senior Center exercise class at 10:30am
 - ~ A Community Co-ed Yoga Class at 5:45pm @ the Little Stone Church starting March 7th.

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 from 10 - 11:30am



Beartooth Humane Alliance



Join us for BHA's introduction to fostering animals.

Stillwater County LIBRARY
27 N 4th St, Columbus

**Saturday
MARCH 9TH
@ 1:00PM**

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:

- **March 12th** – Chorale Practice @ UCC 6pm to practice for the upcoming Spring Concert TBA.
- **March 13th** - Our 4th 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
3/13/24 - Soup: Mina Morse & Donna Zeigler
Bread: Donna Zeigler**

- **March 17th – 5th Sunday of Lent**



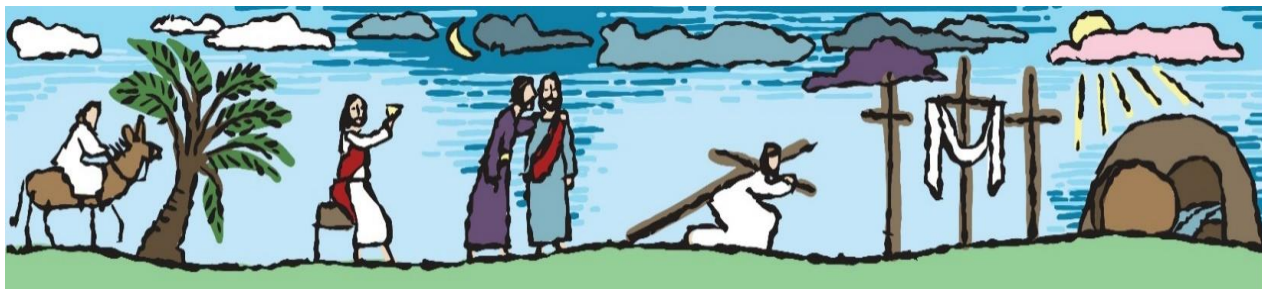
Happy St. Patrick's Day – Pick up a Treat-to-Go

“Blarney Stone” made by a Billings Eastern Star Chapter #126

These are seriously yummy!. What they are is a 2x2 inch piece of frozen white cake, coated on all sides with a butter cream white frosting and coated on all sides with crushed peanuts and kept frozen. They're almost addicting once you've had one!



**Tuesday March 19th, 2024
1st Day of Spring**



HOLY WEEK - 2024



March 24th 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 3/27/24 .



Maundy
Thursday

SERVICE - MARCH 28TH

7 PM

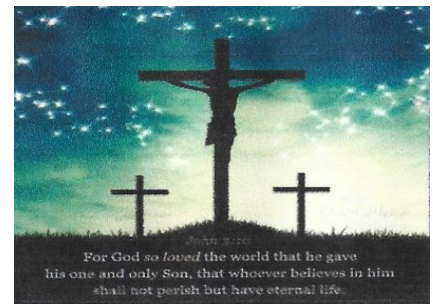
@ COLUMBUS CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH

Good Friday Service –

March 29th

@ 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 March 31st

Community Service East Hill – Columbus 7am

Pastries and Fruit (before our service 8:00ish)

Provided by the Church Council Members

St. James' Service 9:30am

HE IS RISEN

the Lord is risen indeed