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!



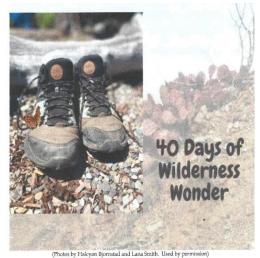
Click on image OR FB Search: Saint James Lutheran Church of Columbus, Montana Click on image or the link below to be directed to our website: <u>www.lutheranchurchcolumbusmt.org</u>

**On the website, scroll down to "Click here for the St. James FaceBook 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 <u>NO</u> 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



FORTY DAYS OF WILDERNESS WONDER

"Forty Days of Wilderness Wonder" is a daily devotional to accompany you through the liturgical church season of Lent which begins on Ash Wednesday, February 22. Daily devotions are provided for each day except for Sundays, which are not counted in the "40 days". Sundays are always considered the day of resurrection. Each "day" is dated for additional reference.

As our spring activities increase, we are tempted to neglect our need for personal devotion. This Lenten devotional invites you to take time to pause, read, reflect and pray as we journey again to the cross, remembering the promises of God's

presence and promise of the resurrection. This resource is a combination of scripture, song texts, brief reflections, images and prayer. Multiple devotionals on the same scriptures or song texts are included for different perspectives.

If you have never done a daily devotional before, Lent is the perfect time to begin this faith discipline. If possible, set aside a specific time each day for this devotional practice. If you miss a day, it's easy to get back on track as you continue your journey to the cross. Daily devotions will also be posted on the "Forty Days of Wilderness Wonder" Facebook page. "Like" the page and share with others! ** See PDF attachment to this email or if you would like a printed one ask Betty.

REMINDER, for TOMORROW Sunday March 12th.....



You don't want to be **LATE FOR CHURCH** this morning!!!! 😥

St. James Lutheran Church

205 E 1st 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 March 12th, 2023 – 3rd Sunday in Lent

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 alland also be with you.

Combined Choir Hymn: "Must Jesus Bear the Cross"

Service of the Lenten Candles

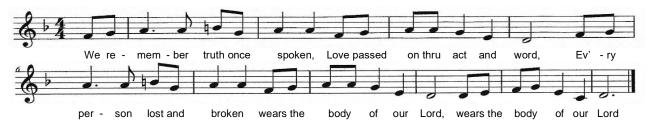
Lenten Choral Introit - Sing First Verse



Candle Service Devotion for this 3rd Sunday of Lent EXTINGUISHING OF THIRD LENTEN CANDLE

Let us pray: Draw us together in your love, O God. May our restless hearts not resist you, but continue to search until they find their rest in you. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Lenten Choral Introit – Sing Second Verse



GATHERING

Confession & Forgiveness

Holy God, we confess to you our faults and failings. Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word; we take for ourselves instead of giving to others; we spoil rather than steward your creation; we cause hurt though you call us to heal; we choose fear over compassion. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, as we seek to follow in your way of life. Amen.

Assurance of God's Love

Gathering Hymn: "The Water God Gives Us" (to the tune "Away in the Manger")

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

- Vs 1 The water God gives us in wondrous supply Is water that's living and never runs dry. For everyone drinks and is thirsty again, But God's living water gives life without end.
- Vs 2 O God, we confess that we seek empty things; We strive after wealth and the comfort it brings. We buy things in hopes that our spirits will soar Yet still we are thirsty and left wanting more.
- Vs 3 Then just like that woman who went to the well, we hear you, O Christ, & the truth that you tell. You know who we are & you know what we've been; You know us & love us in spite of our sin.
- Vs 4 The gift that you give is the greatest of wealth; You give living water! You give us yourself! May we, like that woman, go back where we live and tell those we know of the life that you give.

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 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.

Prayer of the Day

Merciful God, fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Hear the 1st Reading: Exodus 17:1-7

¹From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ²The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" ³But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" ⁴So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." ⁵The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

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

Read Psalm 95 responsively by whole verse

Come, let us sing to the LORD; let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation. ²Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving and raise a loud shout to the LORD with psalms. ³For you, LORD, are a great God, and a great ruler above all gods. ⁴In your hand are the caverns of the earth; the heights of the hills are also yours. ⁵The sea is yours, for you made it, and your hands have molded the dry land. ⁶Come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the LORD our maker. ⁷For the LORD is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand. Oh, that today you would hear God's voice! ⁸"Harden not your hearts, as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert. ⁹There your ancestors tested me, they put me to the test, though they had seen my works. ¹⁰Forty years I loathed that generation, saying, 'The heart of this people goes astray; they do not know my ways. ¹¹Indeed I swore in my anger, 'They shall never come to my rest.'"

The Gospel Acclamation:

We sing: Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

The Gospel according to John:

We sing the response after the announcement: "Glory to you, O Lord"

John 4:5-30; 39-42

On his way he came to the town of Sychar. It was near the field Jacob had long ago given to his son Joseph. The well Jacob had dug was still there, and Jesus sat down beside it because he was tired from traveling. It was noon, and after Jesus' disciples had gone into town to buy some food, a Samaritan woman came to draw water from the well. Jesus asked her, "Would you please give me a drink of water?" "You are a Jew," she replied, "and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink of water when Jews and Samaritans won't have anything to do with each other?" Jesus answered, "You don't know what God wants to give you, and you don't know who is asking you for a drink. If you did, you would ask me for the water which gives life." "Sir," the woman said, "you don't even have a bucket, and the well is deep. Where are you going to get this life-giving water? Our ancestor Jacob dug this well for us, and his family and animals got water from it. Are you greater than Jacob?" Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will get thirsty again. But no one who drinks the water I give will ever be thirsty again. The water I give will become in that person a flowing fountain which gives eternal life." The woman replied, "Sir, please give me a drink of that water! Then I won't get thirsty and have to come to this well again." Jesus told her, "Go and bring your husband." The woman answered, "I don't have a husband." "That's right," Jesus replied, "you're telling the truth. You don't have a husband. You have already been married five times, and the man you are now living with isn't your husband." The woman said, "Sir, I can see you are a prophet. My ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews say Jerusalem is the only place to worship." Jesus said to her: Believe me, the time is coming when you won't worship the Father either on this mountain or in Jerusalem. You Samaritans don't really know the one you worship. But we Jews do know the God we worship, and by using us, God will save the world. But a time is coming, and it is already here! Even now the true worshipers are being led by the Spirit to worship the Father according to the truth. These are the ones the Father is seeking to worship him. God is Spirit, and those who worship God must be led by the Spirit to worship him according to the truth. The woman said, "I know the

Messiah will come. He is the one we call Christ. When he comes, he will explain everything to us." "I am that one," Jesus told her, "and I am speaking to you now." The disciples returned about this time and were surprised to find Jesus talking with a woman. But none of them asked him what he wanted or why he was talking with her. The woman left her water jar and ran back into town, where she said to the people, "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! Could he be the Messiah?" Everyone in town went out to see Jesus. A lot of Samaritans in town put their faith in Jesus because the woman had said, "This man told me everything I have ever done." They came and asked him to stay in their town, and he stayed on for two days. Many more Samaritans put their faith in Jesus because of what they heard him say. They told the woman, "We no longer have faith in Jesus just because of what you told us. We have heard him ourselves, and we are certain he is the Savior of the world!"

The Gospel of the Lord:

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

Sermon: "Water Flows from the Fount" Reflection Hymn: "Fill My Cup Lord – Like the Woman at the Well"





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

P: O healing river,

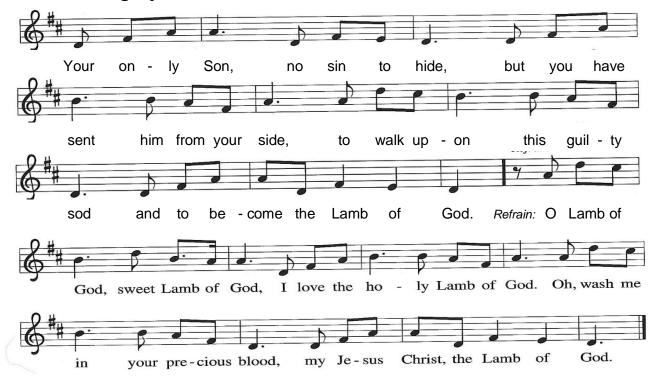
ALL: pour down Your waters and heal Your people.

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: "Lamb of God"



Offering Prayer

God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life. 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:

(*C*) sings: 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

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.**

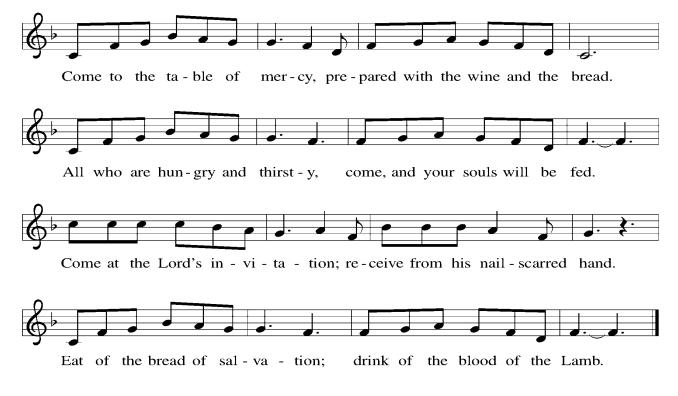
Mystery of our Faith. Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Invitation to Communion

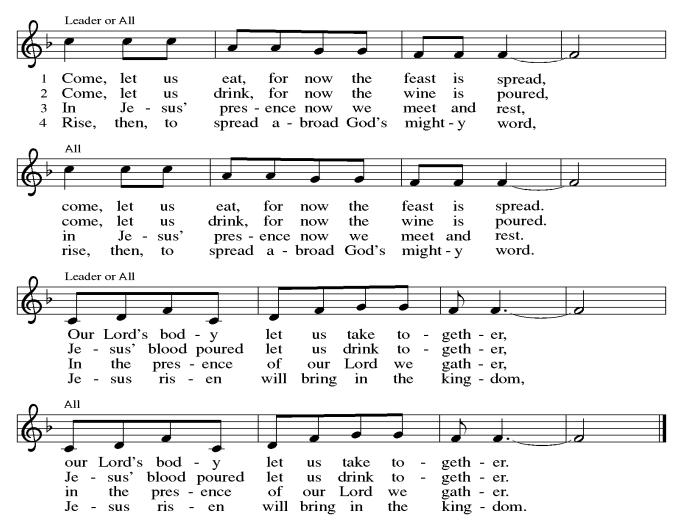
In this meal of bread and wine, we believe Christ is truly present forgiving sin, reconciling us to God and one another, and giving new life. Christ is host. Christ is the one who invites us to the table even while it is properly understood as the meal of the baptized. All are welcome at the Lord's Table.

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

"Come to the Table"

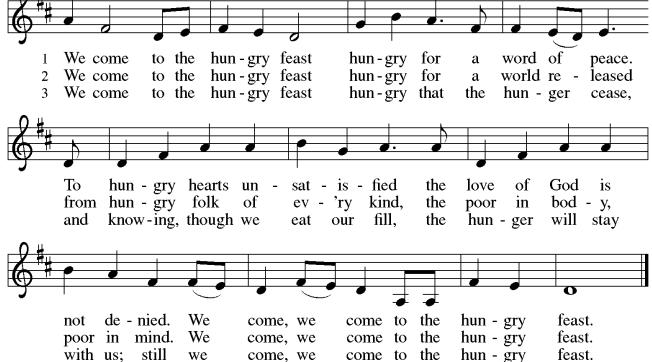


"Come, Let Us Eat



"Beautiful Savior"





SENDING

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

Sending Hymn: "Come Thou Fount"



Dismissal: Go in peace. Serve in Love. **Thanks be to God.** Music Published by Permission, CCLI #11445215 Worship Service recorded by Permission, CSPL #168651

Readings for Sunday 3/19/23 4th Sunday of Lent Worship Service:

1 Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 23; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41



Leslie Mullin and Joy Goehner for the wonderful coffee hour last Sunday! Bless you

Joy Goehner, Bill Strickland and Maureen & Bob Hemphill for agreeing to and completing the 2022 financial books audit.

Bill Strickland, who is a brand-new council member and has already taken charge of two huge projects for our church!

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING

March 2023 Altar Guild: Denise Cowan

March 2023 Cleaner(s): Denise & Steve Cowan and Pete & Amber Lofing

March 2023 Reader(s): Will someone sign up to help this month?

March 12th, 2023 Communion Helper(s): Denise Cowan

Thank you, Denise Cowan & Chris Fleury for helping with communion last Sunday. March 12th,2023 Usher(s): Steve Cowan

Thank you, Leslie Mullin & Bill Strickland for ushering last Sunday. March 12th, 2023 Gate Keepers: Carrie Williams & Donna Zeigler 2023 Musician(s): Marge Sunvold & Betty Ames

PLEASE KEEP IN PRAYER...

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

We offer new prayers for:

Quincy Lofing Davis, who will have surgery on 3/14 for her heart murmur and for Kaci Popp Thomason, who was recently diagnosed with cancer and is also 8 months pregnant. She was flown to SLC to prepare for an early delivery and to start her cancer treatment. Gracious God, be with the entire family and friends of Kaci & Matt and Carli & Rob on this journey ahead.

We offer praise for:

Steve & Denise Cowan gives thanks for a new Great-grandson, Jayce Benjamin Walker. Born Mar. 9th @ 12.53, 7lbs ³/₄ oz. 20 ¹/₂ inches long. He and mom are fine although she is exhausted after 30 hrs of tough labor and eventually had a C-section. Blessings to the entire family on this miracle.

Tessa Rouane's husband, Conor is settling in at their home in Wy. His recovery has been miraculous. They have felt the love, support and concern from their family & friends.

We offer continued prayers for:

Your healing and wisdom Lord for Connie Bokma; Joy Goehner; Pastor Tonia; 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; 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 & home insecure. Pray especially for a little boy named Luke and a little girl named Nevaeh.

Ukraine and her people; Turkey & Siria

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



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

A WONDERFUL PROJECT FOR LENT



As Lent continues, so does our St. James' annual "PIGGY" Bank Program. Piggy banks are still available for pick-up. "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



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

As St. James continues to reflect our holy time, the Lenten candles are extinguished each Sunday in Lent during the "Lenten Candle Service". Each week, the light will slowly fade into darkness as we 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 1st - March 29th.

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

**THANKS for bringing soup & bread last Wed. - Donna, Leanne, Joy and Evelyn & Carrie



NEXT CHOIR PRACTICE FOR 2023

Wednesday March 15th 4:00pm @ Columbus Congregational Church

March 15th - Choir Practice 4:00pm @ Columbus Congregational Church. Our 3rd Mid-week Holden Evening Prayer 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

3/15 - Soup: Chris Fleury & Betty Ames Bread: Chris Fleury & Marge Sunvold

March Mission Offering -



Benefit's: Columbus Senior Center

~ Center meals: Mon – Fri @ Noon (Meals-on wheels also available) ~ Special meals: Birthday & Holiday (check their calendar for dates) - Pinochle: 1st & 3rd Thurs 1pm; Party Bridge: 1st & 3rd Fri 1pm; Duplicate Bridge: 2nd & 4th Wed. ~ Jam Session: Every 3rd Saturday 1pm

~ Social Hour 9:30am

SPEAKING OF MISSIONS:

Pray and Give to Our Montana/Wyoming ELCA Synod Pray and Give to the Lutheran Disaster Response: RUSH EMERGENCY AID TO TURKEY

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 5th Offering gratefully received \$2,870.00 Total received this month \$2,870.00

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

Mail offering, Box 356; Take offering to parsonage; Auto pay through your bank or Give online through Tithe.ly. 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).



Happy <mark>March</mark> Birthday

William Adams 3/1; Tyler Kem 3/4; Kristi Lofing 3/6; Vanessa Wanner 3/7; Ted Fleury 3/9; Morgan Radford 3/11; Even Makoff 3/16; Pat Lofing 3/17; Greg Lofing 3/17; Jo Lind 3/19; Holly Williams 3/19; Alex Alton 3/22; Bob Hemphill 3/25; Irmgard Houghton 3/25; Gary Lofing 3/29; Malachi Moulden 3/30; Sheri Luepke 3/31



y **March** Anniversary

Bill & Karen McDonald 3/6

**If we have your email,

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

ecard! american greetings



Other members, check your mailbox!

We certainly hope you are

Having Fun with Faith...

We hope you are enjoying the series of "Children's Worship Bulletins", which you will now find during Lent, on our website. 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"

PLEASE FORWARD & SHARE these bulletins & kits with your kids, grandkids,

friends & friend'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!

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES to REFLECT GOD'S LOVE to OURSELVES, 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 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–Makey, Makey! February 11th Hosting "Native-American Up-Cycling" with Buck Hitswithastick: from 2:00pm to 4:00pm. Everyone welcome.

It's time for free trees (saplings)!

We are partnering up with Neighborhood Forest again to offer free seedlings for children to plant in celebration of Earth Week. Please fill out this registration form to reserve your one free seedling or purchase additional seedlings:

https://www.neighborhoodforest.org/parent-registration/...

The deadline to register is March 15. Delivery is tentatively set for April 20th.



Answers: This week's







HOLY WEEK



Apríl 2nd 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

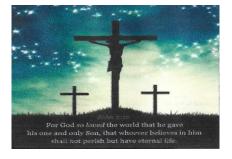
No midweek Lenten Service on Wednesday 4/5.



SERVICE - APRIL 6[™] 7 PM @ 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 9th 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

