

# 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



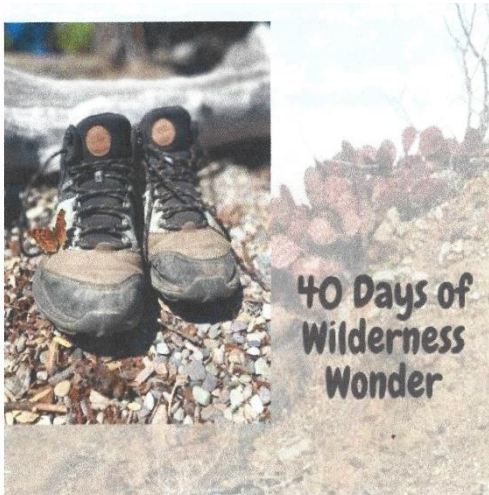
Click on image or the link below to be directed to our website:  
[www.lutheranchurchcolumbusmt.org](http://www.lutheranchurchcolumbusmt.org)

**\*\*On the website, scroll down to "Click here for the St. James YouTube 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!

## 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 **NO** 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



(Photos by Haleyon Bjornstad and Lana Smith. Used by permission)

## 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**

# St. James Lutheran Church

205 E 1<sup>st</sup> Ave. N. Columbus, MT 59019  
Leader: Pastor Tonia Fisher (406) 656-9557  
Email: [toniafisherclarkmt@gmail.com](mailto:toniafisherclarkmt@gmail.com)



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

## Sunday March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – 4<sup>th</sup> 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 all .....and also be with you.*

### **Service of the Lenten Candles**

#### **Lenten Choral Introit - Sing First Verse**

Tree of Life and awesome myst'ry, in your death we are re - born; though you  
die in all of hist'ry, still you rise with ev' - ry morn, still you rise with ev'ry morn.

#### **Candle Service Devotion for this 4<sup>th</sup> 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 – Sing Second Verse**

Christ, you lead and we shall follow, stumbling though our steps may be, One with  
you in joy and sorrow we the river, you the sea, we the river, you the sea.

## **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: "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"



- 1 Praise the One who breaks the dark-ness with a lib - er - at - ing light;
- 2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren with a strong yet gen - tle word;
- 3 Praise the one true love in - car - nate: Christ, who suf - fered in our place;



praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners, turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight.  
praise the One who drove out de - mons with a pierc - ing, two - edged sword.  
Je - sus died and rose for man - y that we may know God by grace.



Praise the One who preached the gos - pel, heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease,  
Praise the One who brings cool wa - ter to the des - ert's burn - ing sand;  
Let us sing for joy and glad - ness, see - ing what our God has done.



calm - ing storms and feed - ing thou - sands with the ver - y bread of peace.  
from this well comes liv - ing wa - ter quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.  
Praise the one re - deem - ing glo - ry; praise the One who makes us one.

## 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

Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## WORD

### Sing Psalm 23 "The Lord's My Shepherd"



1 The Lord's my shep-herd; I'll not want. He makes me down to lie  
2 My soul he doth re - store a - gain, and me to walk doth make  
3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, yet will I fear no ill;  
4 My ta - ble thou hast rich - ly spread in pres - ence of my foes;  
5 Good - ness and mer - cy all my life shall sure - ly fol - low me,



in pas - tures green; he lead - eth me the qui - et wa - ters by.  
with - in the paths of righ - teous - ness, e'en for his own name's sake;  
for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me com - fort still;  
my head thou dost with oil a - noint, and my cup o - ver - flows.  
and in God's house for - ev - er - more my dwell - ing - place shall be;



He lead - eth me, he lead - eth me the qui - et wa - ters by.  
with - in the paths of righ - teous - ness, e'en for his own name's sake.  
for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me com - fort still.  
My head thou dost with oil a - noint, and my cup o - ver - flows.  
and in God's house for - ev - er - more my dwell - ing - place shall be.

### Hear the 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14

<sup>8</sup>Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—<sup>9</sup>for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. <sup>10</sup>Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. <sup>11</sup>Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. <sup>12</sup>For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; <sup>13</sup>but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, <sup>14</sup>for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

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

### Please remain seated this morning to welcome the Gospel:

#### **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 9:1-41***

<sup>1</sup>As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup>His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. <sup>4</sup>We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. <sup>5</sup>As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” <sup>6</sup>When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, <sup>7</sup>saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. <sup>8</sup>The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” <sup>9</sup>Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” <sup>10</sup>But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” <sup>11</sup>He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” <sup>12</sup>They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.” <sup>13</sup>They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. <sup>14</sup>Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. <sup>15</sup>Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” <sup>16</sup>Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. <sup>17</sup>So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.” <sup>18</sup>The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight <sup>19</sup>and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” <sup>20</sup>His parents answered, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; <sup>21</sup>but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” <sup>22</sup>His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. <sup>23</sup>Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.” <sup>24</sup>So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.” <sup>25</sup>He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” <sup>26</sup>They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” <sup>27</sup>He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” <sup>28</sup>Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. <sup>29</sup>We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” <sup>30</sup>The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. <sup>31</sup>We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. <sup>32</sup>Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. <sup>33</sup>If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” <sup>34</sup>They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out. <sup>35</sup>Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” <sup>36</sup>He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” <sup>37</sup>Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” <sup>38</sup>He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him. <sup>39</sup>Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.” <sup>40</sup>Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” <sup>41</sup>Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”

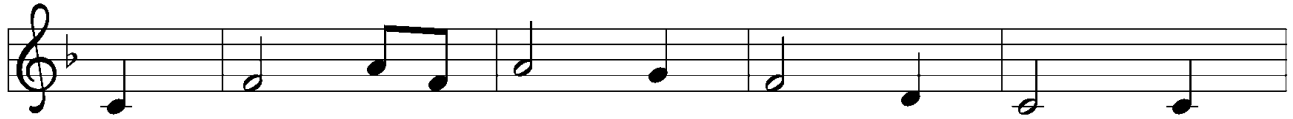
## ***The Gospel of the Lord:***

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

### ***Sermon: “Enlightened by Water”***

## Reflection Hymn: "Amazing Grace"

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



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.

## 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,

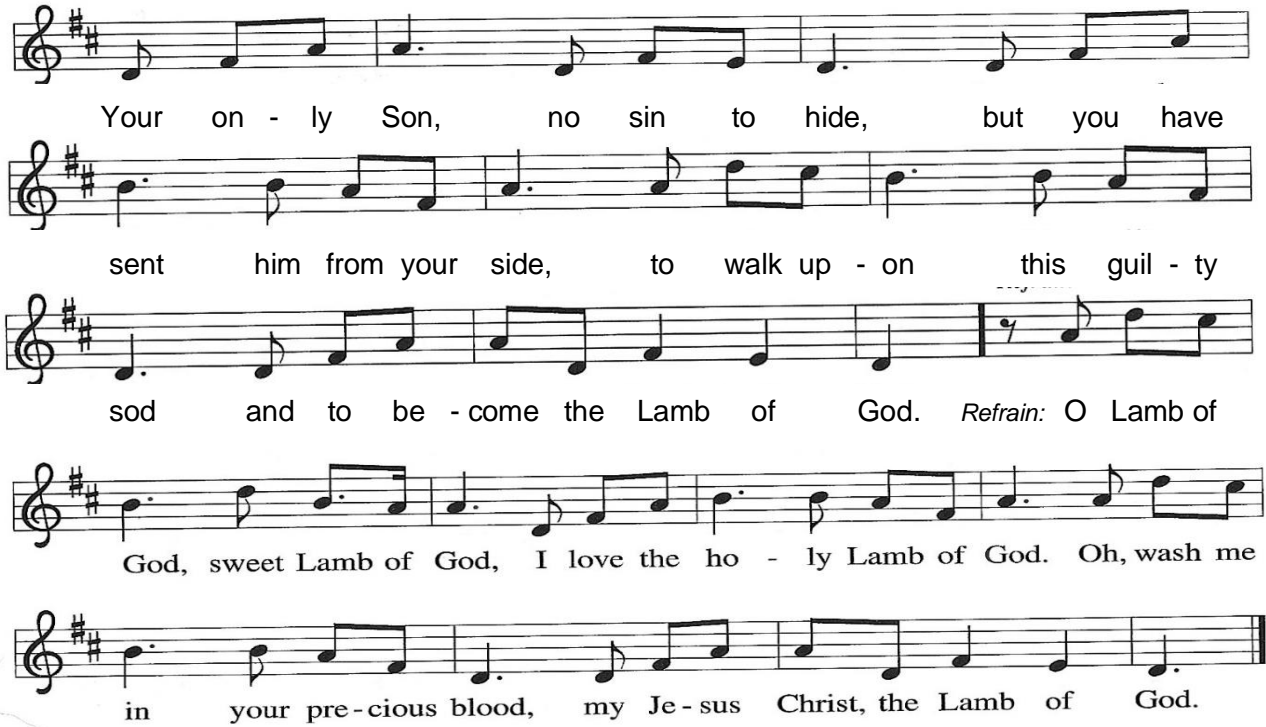
**ALL:** pour down Your waters and heal Your people.

**Passing of the Peace** .....and 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"**



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**

*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.*

**Table Setting Hymn: "Just As I Am"**



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**

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, Let Us Eat

Leader or All



1 Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread,  
2 Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured,  
3 In Je - sus' pres - ence now we meet and rest,  
4 Rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y word,

All



come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.  
come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured.  
in Je - sus' pres - ence now we meet and rest.  
rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y word.

Leader or All



Our Lord's bod - y let us take to - geth - er,  
Je - sus' blood poured let us drink to - geth - er,  
In the pres - ence of our Lord we gath - er,  
Je - sus ris - en will bring in the king - dom,

All



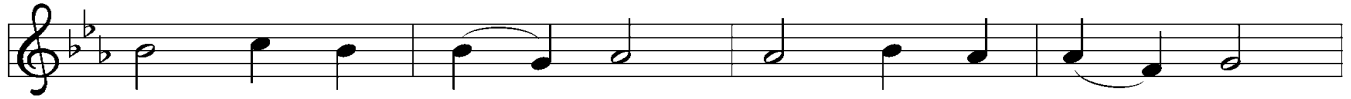
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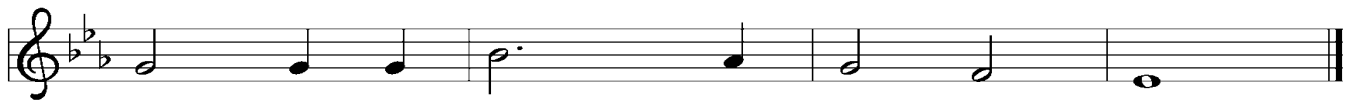
## "Beautiful Savior"



Son of God and Son of Man!  
robed in flow'rs and of bloom - ing spring;  
bright the spar - kling stars on high;  
Son of God and Son of Man!



Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,  
Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,  
Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er  
Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,



light of my soul, my joy, my crown.  
he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.  
than all the an - gels in the sky.  
now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

## "We Come to the Hungry Feast"



1 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a word of peace.  
2 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a world re - leased  
3 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry that the hun - ger cease,



To hun - gry hearts un - sat - is - fied the love of God is  
from hun - gry folk of ev - 'ry kind, the poor in bod - y,  
and know - ing, though we eat our fill, the hun - ger will stay



not de - nied. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.  
poor in mind. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.  
with us; still we come, we come to the hun - gry feast.

## **"Come to the Table"**



Come to the ta - ble of mer - cy, pre - pared with the wine and the bread.



All who are hun - gry and thirst - y, come, and your souls will be fed.



Come at the Lord's in - vi - ta - tion; re - ceive from his nail - scarred hand.



Eat of the bread of sal - va - tion; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

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

## **SENDING**

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

**Sending Hymn: "Be Thou My Vision"**



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;  
2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;  
3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,  
4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:  
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.  
thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:  
may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought both by day and by night,  
 Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,  
 thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,  
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.  
 raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.  
 great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.  
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

**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 3/26/23 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent Worship Service:**

Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 130; Romans 8:6-11; John 11: 1-45



We hope you had a chance to reserve your seedling from the Stillwater Library. Delivery is tentatively set for April 20th.



Spring projects are on our minds! You may see some free seeds in stores. You are welcome to take some, and if you grow extra produce, share with your friends, neighbors, and community!

## **A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING**

**March 2023 Altar Guild:** Denise Cowan

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

**March 2023 Reader(s): Will someone offer to help today?**

*Thank you, Leanne Sekora for reading last Sunday.*

**March 19<sup>th</sup>. 2023 Communion Helper(s):** Denise Cowan & Larry Goehner

*Thank you, Kim Behrent & Chris Fleury for helping with communion last Sunday.*

**March 19<sup>th</sup>. 2023 Usher(s):** Steve Cowan

*Thank you, Carrie Williams for ushering last Sunday.*

**March 19<sup>th</sup>. 2023 Gate Keepers:** Chris Fleury & Joy Goehner

**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:***

Joy Goehner who will be completing more medical tests the rest of this month.

### ***We offer continued prayers for:***

Your healing and wisdom Lord for Quincy Lofing Davis; Kaci Popp Thomason; Connie Bokma; 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; Jenny Hansen Cheff; Shane Fouhy; 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 insecure & 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.***

## **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



***Thank you, Donna for starting this opportunity again to help ELCA Good Gifts and***

***Thank you all for taking this challenge!***



***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 fades into darkness as we will 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 1<sup>st</sup> - March 29<sup>th</sup>.

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



**NO CHOIR MARCH 22<sup>ND</sup>**

**NEXT CHOIR PRACTICE FOR 2023**

Wednesday March 29<sup>th</sup> 4:00pm

**\*\*THANKS for bringing soup & bread last Wed.** – Chris, Betty & Marge

• **March 22<sup>nd</sup>** –

Our 4<sup>th</sup> 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**

3/22 - Soup: Bill & Rae Ellen Strickland & Kim Behrent Bread: Strickland's & Denise Cowan

• **March 26<sup>th</sup>** – Church Council Meeting immediately after Worship

## 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: 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs 1pm; Party Bridge: 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Fri 1pm;  
Duplicate Bridge: 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wed.
- ~ Jam Session: Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday 1pm
- ~ Social Hour 9:30am

## FOOD BANK MISSION:

Project Hope's Food Bank could use Macaroni & Cheese and Canned Fruit!!

*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.”**

**FYI: At the annual meeting held Jan 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023,**

**\$99,336.80 was the yearly approved 2023 budget ÷ 12 months = \$8,278.07 per/month**

### FOR YOUR REVIEW AND PRAYER.....

March 5 <sup>th</sup> Offering gratefully received	\$2,870.00
March 12 <sup>th</sup> Offering gratefully received	\$1,355.00
<b>Total received so far this month</b>	<b>\$4,225.00</b>

\*\*Our 2023 monthly budget to meet is \$ 8,278.07

YTD Jan (\$2,725.07) + Feb (1,775.07) under monthly budget total (\$4,500.14)

### 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).**



## Happy March 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



## Happy March Anniversary

Bill & Karen McDonald 3/6

\*\*If we have your email,



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

Other members, check your mailbox!

 american greetings ecard!



# 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 Other 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!!!!

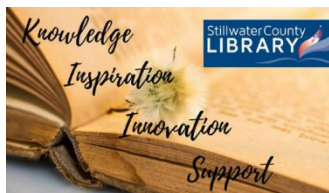
**ALSO, Every Wednesday**, continue to watch for the Word(s) on Wednesday email with a copy of Pastor Tonia's weekly message or watch recorded on our FB page.

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 embroiderets 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!**

Special thanks to these seed companies who donated!

Burpee	Fedco Seeds
Victory Seeds	Freeheirloomseeds.org
Seed Savers Exchange	Hudson Valley Seed Company
Mary's Heirloom Seeds	Snake River Seed Cooperative
Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds	Good Seed Co - A Montana Company

27 N. 4th St, Columbus, MT 59019 | PH: 406-322-5009 | slibrary@mtlib.org

**House Plant Exchange!**  
**ALSO: March 25<sup>th</sup>**  
**During our Seed Library Kick-off**

**Seed Library Kick-off**

We have secured a significant amount of seeds to share!

Lee Schmelzer from the MSU Extension will be speaking about "Overcoming Challenges of Gardening in Stillwater County" at 11:00 AM.

Choose seeds for your 2023 crop!

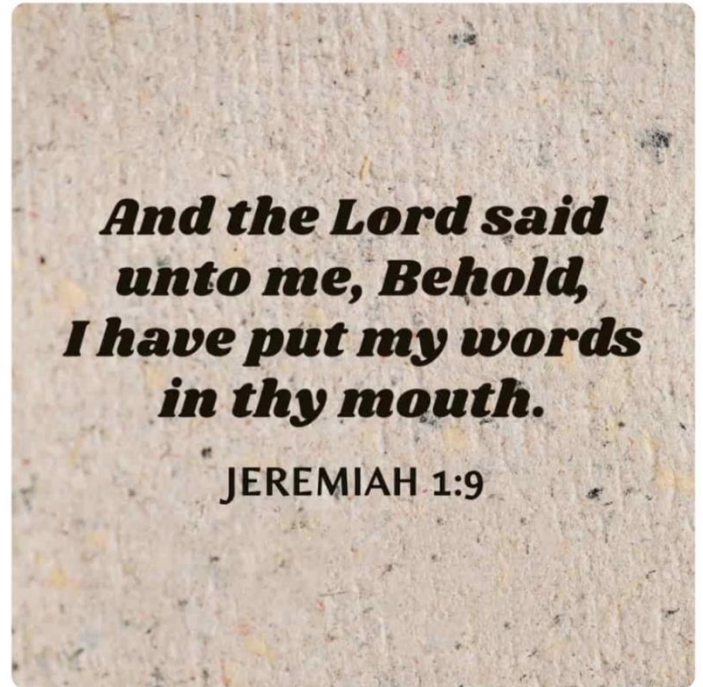
Resources to help your garden thrive!

Learn how to save seeds for years to come.

We will be having a houseplant exchange all day as well!

Over 100 varieties!

Answers: This week's



# HOLY WEEK



*April 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 Choir or midweek Lenten Service on Wednesday 4/5.**



**SERVICE - APRIL 6<sup>TH</sup>**

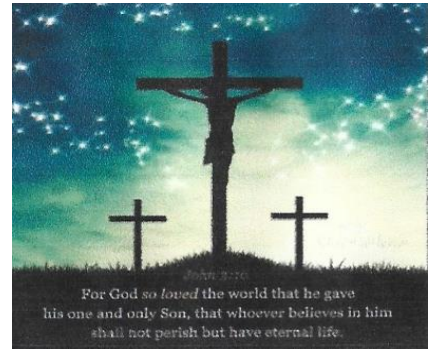
**7 PM**

**@ 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 9<sup>th</sup>***

**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**

**HE IS RISEN**  
*the Lord is risen indeed*