

# WELCOME to St. James Lutheran Church

205 E 1<sup>st</sup> Ave. N. Columbus, MT 59019 (406) 321-5100

Leader: Pastor Tonia Fisher

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 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024 –  
6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of 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 all .....and also with you.

**Processional Gospel: Mark 11:1-11** ..... and we say: **Amen**

**Call to Worship Hymn: ELW #344 "All Glory, Laud and Honor"**

*Refrain*



All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to you, re - deem - er, king,



to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.



- 1 You are the king of Is - rael and Da - vid's roy - al Son,
- 2 The com - pa - ny of an - gels are prais - ing you on high;
- 3 The mul - ti - tude of pil - grims with palms be - fore you went;
- 4 To you, be - fore your pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise.
- 5 Their prais - es you ac - cept - ed; ac - cept the prayers we bring,

*Refrain*



now in the Lord's name com - ing, our King and Bless - ed One.  
cre - a - tion and all mor - tals in cho - rus make re - ply.  
our praise and prayer and an - thems be - fore you we pre - sent.  
To you, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.  
great au - thor of all good - ness, O good and gra - cious King.

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

**GATHERING**

## **Palm Sunday Litany:**

*P: We are God's people - the work of eternal love, creative power, and ongoing grace.*

**All: We shout praise to the Lord, our God.**

*P: We are brothers and sisters of and in Christ, made family by water, Spirit, and word.*

**All: We shout hosanna to Christ, our king.**

*P: We carry the breath of the Holy Spirit, words for peace, justice, hope, and healing.*

**All: We shout thanks to the Spirit, our guide.**

*P: The God of creation is a God of mercy!*

**All: Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.**

*P: Jesus Christ is God among us, fully human as well as revealing Divine truth and power.*

**All: Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.**

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"      Guitar: Stan Meisner**



As I went down to the riv - er to



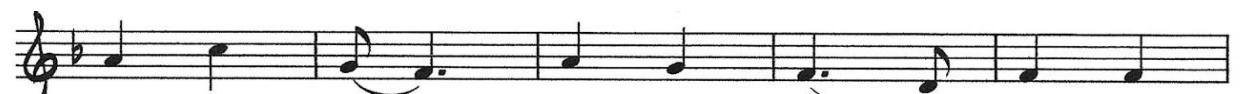
pray, stud - y - ing a - bout that good old \_\_\_ way, and \_\_\_



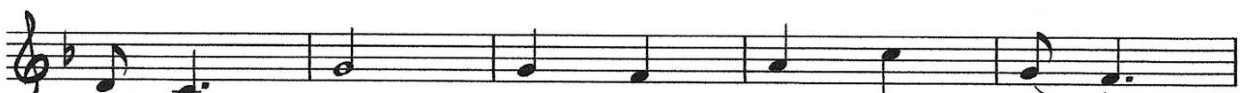
who shall wear the robe and crown? Good Lord,



show me the way. O sin - ners,



let's go down, \_\_\_ let's go down, \_\_\_ come on



down. \_\_\_ O sin - ners, let's go down, \_\_\_



down to the riv - er to \_\_\_ pray!

**\*\* Repeat once**

## **Confession & Forgiveness**

*Fountain of living water, Pour out your mercy over us. Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free. Rebuild what we have ruined and mend what we have torn. Wash us in your cleansing flood. Make us alive in the Spirit to follow in the way of Jesus, as healers and restorers of the world you so love. Amen.*

## **Assurance of God's Love**

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

Candle Service Devotion for this 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent on Palm Sunday

#### **EXTINGUISHING OF SIXTH LENTEN CANDLE**

*Let us pray... Loving God, there are so many choices before us every day. Choices offered by our friends, our families, our culture, our own past. Some of them encourage the well-being of the earth, ourselves and our neighbors; others are destructive. Help us to distinguish between them. May we learn from the choices of Jesus and embody compassion, justice, and inclusion in all we say and do. Amen.*

#### **Lenten Choral Introit**



In life in death we - trust. In - God's most ho - ly name.  
For - ev - er traced by wa - ter sign, and sealed by - Spir - it flame.

## **Prayer of the Day**

*Everlasting God, in your endless love for the human race, you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our nature and to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

## **WORD**

### **Homily: "What a Parade"**

**Listen to the Passion of Christ according to St. Mark**

*Thank you, Maureen Nemphill, Bob Kem, Sheri Luepke, Leanne Sekora,  
Bill Strickland & Donna Zeigler for assisting Pastor Tonia.*

## Reflection Hymn: "Lord, What a Parade!"

\*\* to the tune "O Worship the King"

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 Lord, what a par - ade! The crowd quic - kly grew;  
2 They welcomed you in, a con - que - ring king,  
3 Did those in that crowd ex - pect something more  
4 Lord Je - sus, it's true — we give you glad praise,



What noise they all made in wel - co - ming you  
Yet what kind of reign would you re - ally bring?  
Than one who reach'd out in love to - the poor?  
Yet li - ving for you will chal - lenge our ways



"Ho - sa - nna!" they shouted. "It's Da - vid's own son!  
It wa - sn't a war horse you rode on that day;  
Did they think a sav - ior with ar - mies was best,  
So may we be o - pen and wel - come your reign.



Ho - sa - nna! Come save us! God's reign has be - gun!"  
A crea - ture of peace car - ried you on your way.  
Or did they re - mem - ber: the peaceful are blessed?  
Ho - sa - nna! Come save us! Re - new us a - gain!

## 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 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: ELW #471 "Let Us Break Bread Together"**

1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;  
2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;

let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.  
let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.

*Refrain*  
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing  
sun, O Lord, have mer - cy on me.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains two vocal lines. The second staff continues the vocal lines. The third staff is the refrain, starting with 'When I fall on my knees...'. The fourth staff concludes the refrain with 'sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.'

### 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: ELW #472 "Eat this Bread"

*Refrain*  
"Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and never be hungry,  
Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst."

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff is the refrain, starting with 'Eat this bread, drink this cup...'. The second staff continues the refrain with 'Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.'

### Great Thanksgiving ELW #153

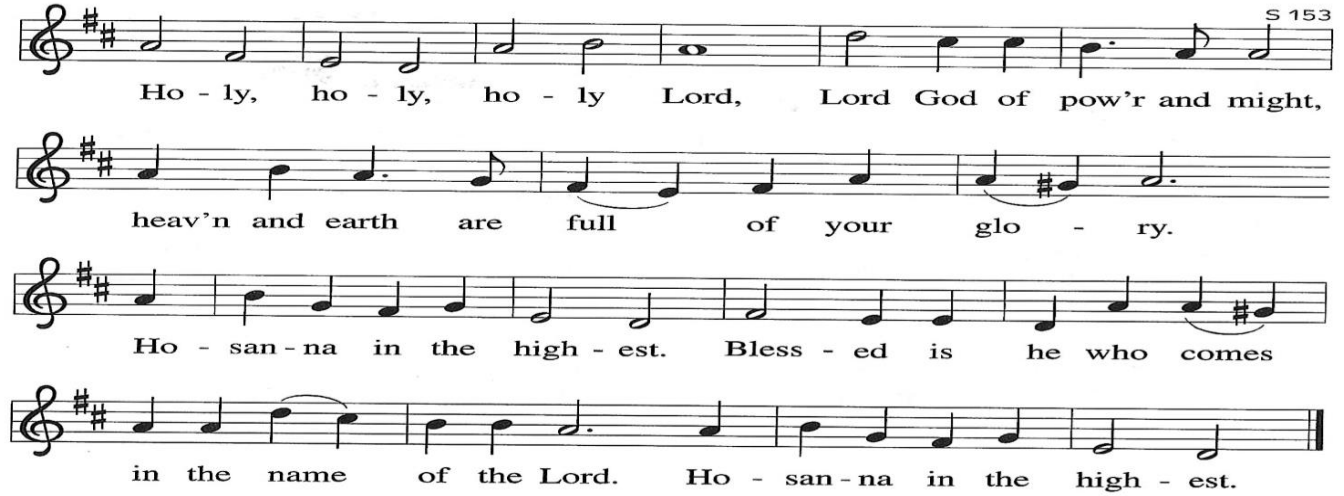
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

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:

S 153



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.**

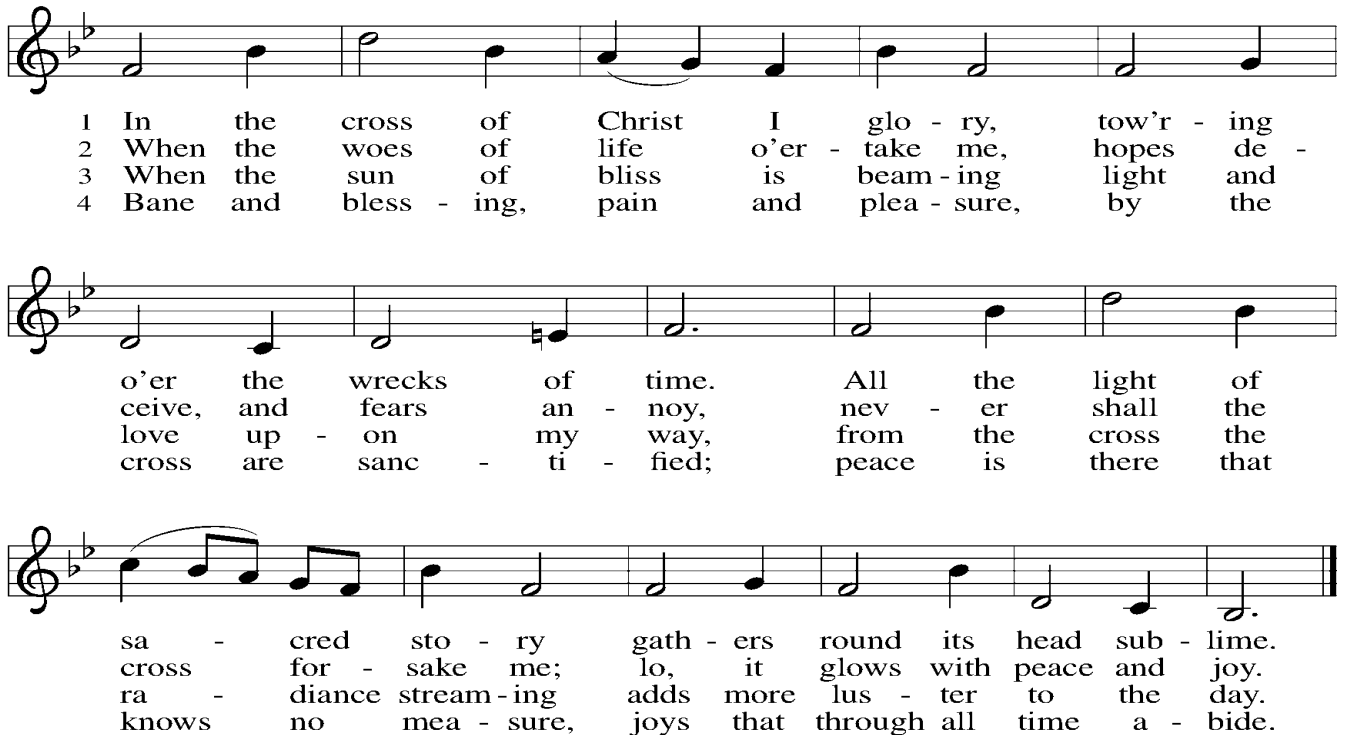
Mystery of our Faith. **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

**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 #324 "In the Cross"**



1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tow'r - ing  
 2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -  
 3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing, light and  
 4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the  
 o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of  
 ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the  
 love up - on my way, from the cross the  
 cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that  
 sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.  
 cross for - sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.  
 ra - diance stream - ing adds more lus - ter to the day.  
 knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.

ELW #592 "Just as I Am"



1 Just as I am, with - out one plea, but that thy blood was  
 2 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y\_a con - flict,  
 3 Just as I am, thou wilt re - ceive, wilt wel - come, par - don,  
 4 Just as I am; thy love un - known has bro - ken ev - 'ry



shed for me, and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,  
 man - y\_a doubt, fight - ings and fears with - in, with - out,  
 cleanse, re - lieve; be - cause thy prom - ise I be - lieve,  
 bar - rier down; now to be thine, yea, thine a - lone,



O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

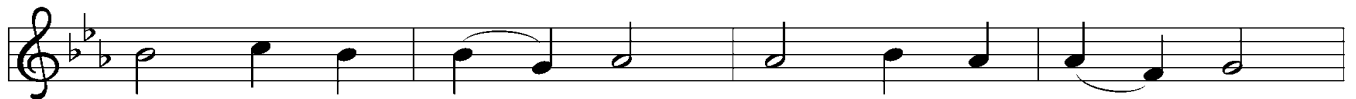
ELW #838 "Beautiful Savior"



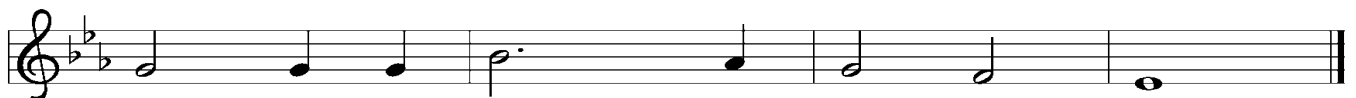
1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,  
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,  
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,  
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,



Son of God and Son of Man!  
 robed in flow'rs 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!

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

## SENDING

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

**Sending Hymn: ELW #336 "Lamb of God"**



1 Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, but you have  
2 Your gift of love we cru - ci - fied. We laughed and  
3 I was so lost, I should have died, but you have



sent him from your side to walk up - on this guilt - y  
scorned him as he died. The hum - ble king we named a  
brought me to your side to be led by your staff and



sod and to be - come the Lamb of God. O Lamb of  
fraud and sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God.  
rod and to be called a lamb of God.



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.

**Dismissal:** We go out in peace and share the good new as we reflect the light of God.

**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 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Communion Helper(s):

*Thank you, Maureen and Bob Hemphill for serving communion last Sunday.*

March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Usher(s):

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

March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Gate Keepers: **Bill & Rae Ellen Strickland**

2024 Musician(s): Marge Sunvold & Betty Ames

## **REMINDERS:**

**Church Council meeting immediately after worship!**



**It's time again to donate an auction item from St. James to benefit our friends at CHRISTIKON.**

This year's theme basket:

**Is it Wine O'clock Yet?**



**Please bring your items to the church no later than Wed March 27<sup>th</sup>.**

Our basket donation will be delivered to the Christikon office in Billings before April 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Thank you!**

*Please share your beautiful Easter Lilies for our Easter Service!!*



## 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](http://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](mailto:toniafisherclarkmt@gmail.com)

### PLEASE KEEP IN PRAYER...

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

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

Your healing and wisdom Lord for Pat Lashley; 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.....**

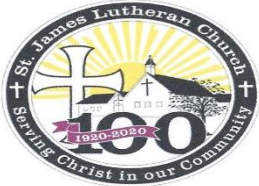
March 3 <sup>rd</sup> Offering gratefully received:	\$1,355.00
March 10 <sup>th</sup> Offering gratefully received:	\$ 585.00
March 17 <sup>th</sup> Offering gratefully received:	<u>\$4,220.00</u>
<b>Total received so far this month</b>	<b>\$6,160.00</b>

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

Mail your offering to the church; Take your offering to the parsonage; Auto pay thru your bank and **Tithe.ly**.

**[Tithe.ly](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)**



# Calendar & Council Chatter...



Email with important monthly information  
\*watch your inbox

## March Calendar of Events Kids March Coloring Calendar

### Review information from February 25<sup>th</sup>, 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](http://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 7<sup>th</sup>.

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



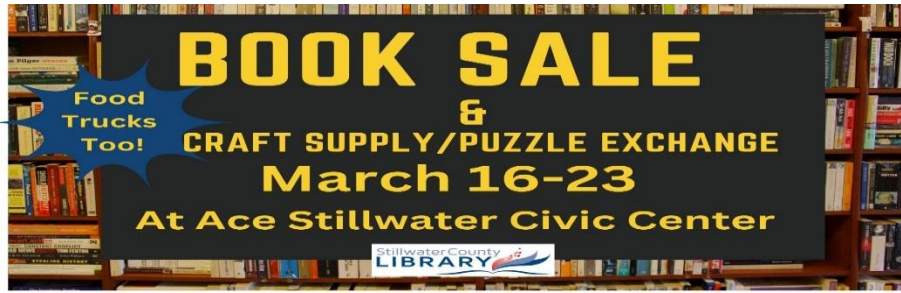
**Join the fun each week.....**

STORYTIME - EVERY WEDNESDAY @ 10AM

**BINGO** is EVERY WEDNESDAY @ 1pm!

Crochet and Knit club Every Saturday 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 26<sup>th</sup> – Chorale Practice @  
Congregational Church in Columbus 6pm**  
\*\*\*Early practice time @ 5:30 – Later practice time @ 7pm



## **HOLY WEEK (cont.) – 2024**

- **March 26<sup>th</sup> - NO Bible Study this week**
- **March 27<sup>th</sup> – NO Mid-week Lent Service**



**SERVICE - MARCH 28<sup>TH</sup>**

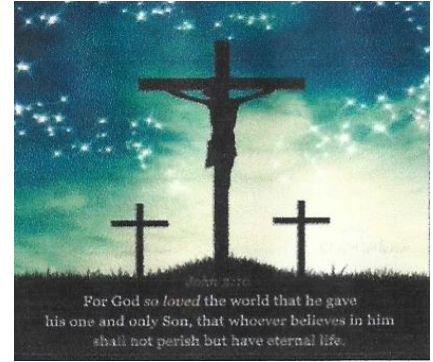
**7 PM**

**@ 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 31<sup>st</sup>***

**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**

