

# 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



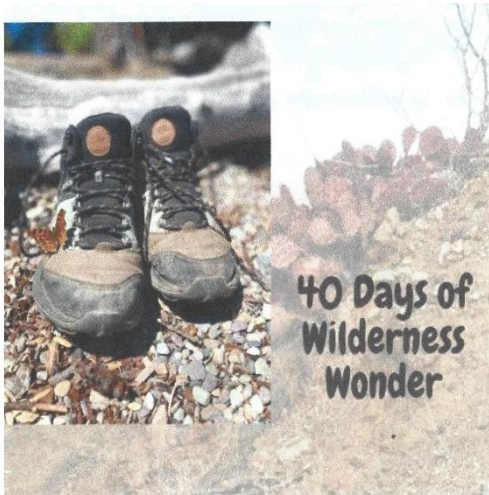
Click on image or the link below to be directed to our website:  
[www.lutheranchurchcolumbusmt.org](http://www.lutheranchurchcolumbusmt.org)

**\*\*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 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – 2<sup>nd</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 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent**

#### **EXTINGUISHING OF SECOND LENTEN CANDLE**

*Let us pray: Loving God, as we journey through this holy season of Lent, may we be open to your presence. Give us the strength to make the changes which are needed in our lives and the courage to take on the work of transforming the world. Amen.*

#### **Lenten Choral Introit – Sing Second Verse**

Gentle Je-sus, mighty Spir-it, Come in-flame our hearts a-new, We may  
all your joy in-her-it, if we bear the cross with you, if we bear the cross with you.

## **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**

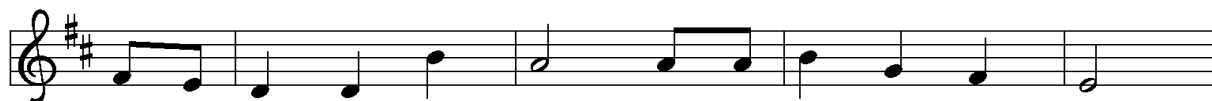
## Gathering Hymn: "Baptized and Set Free"



1 We are peo - ple cre - at - ed, cho - sen by God.  
2 We are fed and we're nour - ished, filled and re - freshed.  
3 We are nour - ished by wa - ter, all liv - ing things,  
4 Now with praise and thanks - giv - ing, we join the song.



Then we're washed, ev - er gent - ly, in mer - cy and love.  
Then our hun - ger re - turns and a - gain we are blessed.  
and by life that the Spir - it a - bun - dant - ly brings.  
All are wel - come! We gath - er to sing loud and strong.



Sin has pow - er no more. Je - sus o - pened the door  
For what - ev - er the need, God is great - er in - deed:  
As we jour - ney toward home, may your pres - ence be known:  
Not en - slaved, but set free! From now on, all will be



to a foun - tain bring - ing heal - ing, and whole - ness and more.  
end - less o - cean, al - ways deep - er than all of our need.  
pre - cious riv - er, ev - er - flow - ing, now car - ry us home.  
one in Je - sus, one in wa - ter, bap - tized and set free!

## 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

O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, so by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world through your Son, 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 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Genesis 12:1-4a**

<sup>1</sup>The LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." <sup>4a</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him.

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

### **Read Psalm 121 responsively by whole verse:**

<sup>1</sup>I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come? <sup>2</sup>**My help comes from the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth.** <sup>3</sup>The LORD will not let your foot be moved nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.

<sup>4</sup>**Behold, the keeper of Israel will neither slumber nor sleep;** <sup>5</sup>the LORD watches over you; the LORD is your shade at your right hand; <sup>6</sup>**the sun will not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.** <sup>7</sup>The LORD will preserve you from all evil and will keep your life. <sup>8</sup>**The LORD will watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth forevermore.**

### **Hear the 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17**

<sup>1</sup>What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? <sup>2</sup>For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup>For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." <sup>4</sup>Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. <sup>5</sup>But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. <sup>13</sup>For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. <sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations")—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

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

Please stand, as you are able, 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 3:1-17**

There was a man of the Pharisee sect, Nicodemus, a prominent leader among the Jews. Late one night he visited Jesus and said, "Rabbi, we all know you're a teacher straight from God. No one could do all the God-pointing, God-revealing acts you do if God weren't in on it."

Jesus said, "You're absolutely right. Take it from me: Unless a person is born from above, it's not possible to see what I'm pointing to—to God's kingdom." "How can anyone," said Nicodemus, "be born who has already been born and grown up? You can't re-enter your mother's womb and be born again. What are you saying with this 'born-from-above' talk?" Jesus said, "You're not listening. Let me say it again. Unless a person submits to this original creation—the 'wind-hovering-over-the-water' creation, the invisible moving the visible, a baptism into a new life—it's not possible to enter God's kingdom. When you look at a baby, it's just that: a body you can look at and touch. But the person who takes shape within is formed by something you can't see and touch—the Spirit—and becomes a living spirit. "So don't be so surprised when I tell you that you have to be 'born from above'—out of this world, so to speak. You know well enough how the wind blows this way and that. You hear it rustling through the trees, but you have no idea where it comes from or where it's headed next. That's the way it is with everyone 'born from above' by the wind of God, the Spirit of God." Nicodemus asked, "What do you mean by this? How does this happen?" Jesus said, "You're a respected teacher of Israel and you don't know these basics? Listen carefully. I'm speaking sober truth to you. I speak only of what I know

by experience; I give witness only to what I have seen with my own eyes. There is nothing secondhand here, no hearsay. Yet instead of facing the evidence and accepting it, you procrastinate with questions. If I tell you things which are plain as the hand before your face and you don't believe me, what use is there in telling you of things you can't see, the things of God? "No one has ever gone up into the presence of God except the One who came down from that Presence, the Son of Man. In the same way Moses lifted the serpent in the desert so people could have something to see and then believe, it is necessary for the Son of Man to be lifted up—and everyone who looks up to him, trusting and expectant, will gain a real life, eternal life. "This is how much God loved the world: He gave his Son, his one and only Son. And this is why: so, no one need be destroyed; by believing in him, anyone can have a whole and lasting life. God didn't go to all the trouble of sending his Son merely to point an accusing finger, telling the world how bad it was. He came to help, to put the world right again. Anyone who trusts in him is acquitted; anyone who refuses to trust him has long since been under the death sentence without knowing it. And why? Because of that person's failure to believe in the one-of-a-kind Son of God when introduced to him.

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

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

### ***Sermon: "Water of Life"***

### ***Reflection Hymn: "God Loved the World"*** (to the tune "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry")

*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 God loved the world so that he gave his only Son the lost to save,  
that all who would in him believe should everlasting life receive.
- Vs 2 Christ Jesus is the ground of faith, who was made flesh and suffered death;  
all who confide in Christ alone are built on this chief cornerstone.
- Vs 3 If you are ill, if death draws near, this truth your troubled heart can cheer:  
Christ Jesus rescues us from death; that is the firmest ground of faith.
- Vs 4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son forgives all sins that you have done,  
and justified by Jesus' blood, your baptism grants the highest good.
- Vs 5 All glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Three in One!  
To you, O blessed Trinity, be praise now and eternally!

### ***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,*

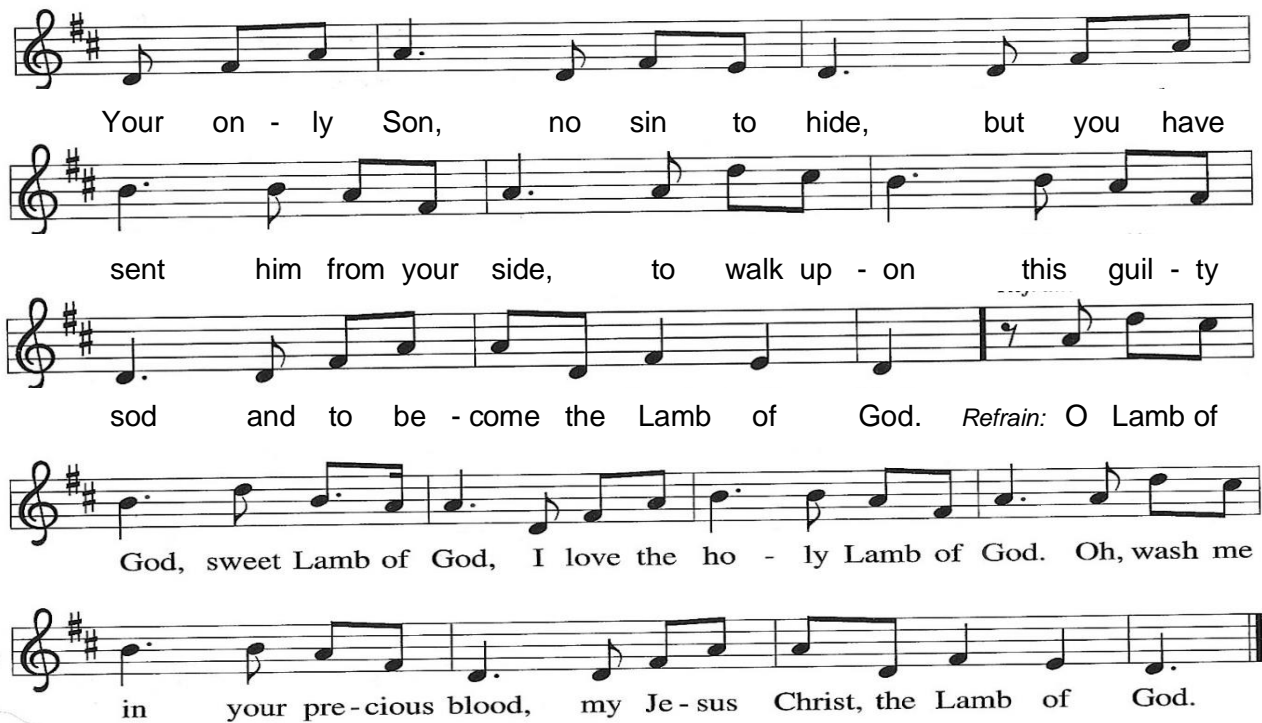
***ALL: pour down Your waters and heal Your people.***

***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"**

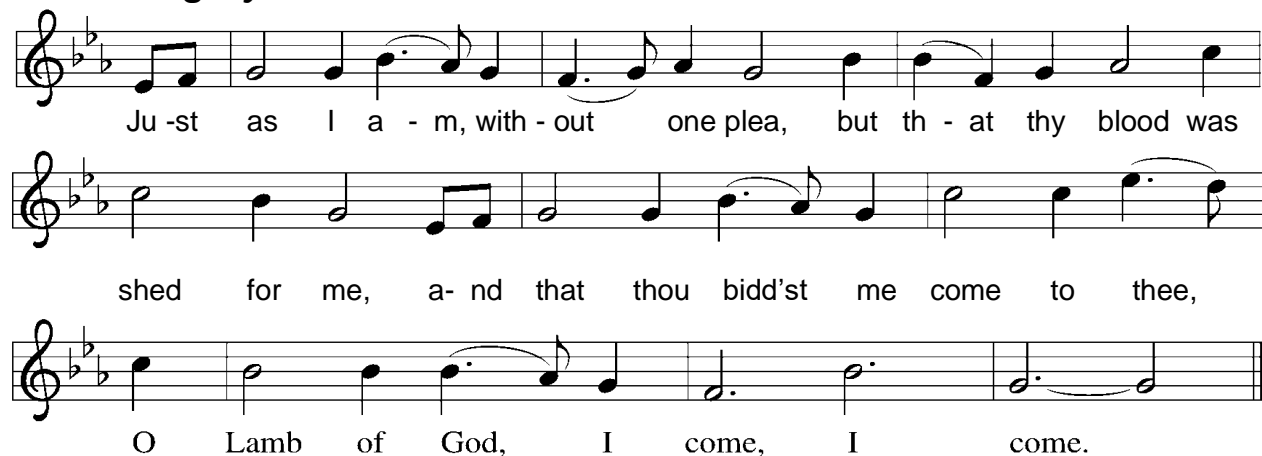


Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, but you have  
sent him from your side, to walk up - on this guil - ty  
sod and to be - come the Lamb of God. *Refrain:* O Lamb of  
God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the ho - ly Lamb of God. Oh, wash me  
in your pre - cious blood, my Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

**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:

#### "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"



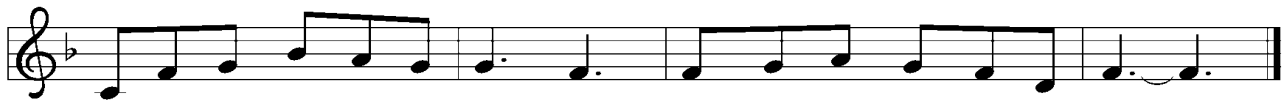
Come to the ta - ble of mer - cy, pre - pared with the wine and the bread.



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.

## "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



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.



## "Beautiful Savior"



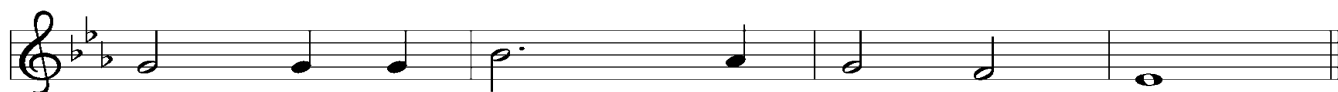
1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,  
2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,  
3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,  
4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,



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,



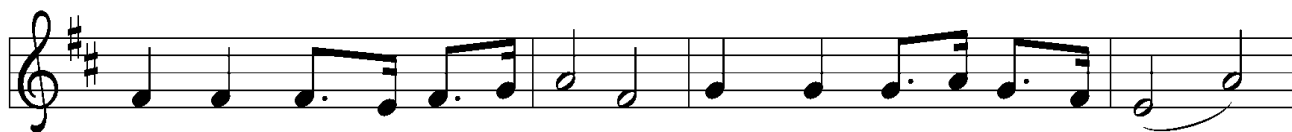
light of my soul, my joy, my crown.  
he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.  
than all the an - gels in the sky.  
now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

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

## SENDING

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

**Sending Hymn: "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. Serve in Love. Thanks be to God.*

*Music Published by Permission, CCLI #11445215 Worship Service recorded by Permission, CSPL #168651*

**Readings for Sunday 3/12/23 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent Worship Service:**

Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 95; Romans 5:1-11; John 4:5-42

## ***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 offer to help this month?

**March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Communion Helper(s):** Denise Cowan & ***Will someone offer to help Denise?***

*Thank you, Kim Behrent and Leslie Mullin for helping with communion last Sunday.*

**March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Usher(s):** Steve Cowan

*Thank you, Joy Goehner for ushering last Sunday.*

**March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Gate Keepers:** Leslie Mullin & Bill Strickland

**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 praise for:***

Connie Bokma, who wanted to let us know she is feeling better and hopefully will be able to eat in the dining room soon. Blessings to you Connie.

### ***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; Joy Goehner; 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 insecure & home insecure. Pray especially for a little boy named Luke and a little girl named Nevaeh.

Ukraine and her people

***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 fade 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.



## NEXT CHOIR PRACTICE FOR 2023

Wednesday March 8th 4:00pm  
@ St. James Lutheran Church

- **March 8th –**

Our 2<sup>nd</sup> Mid-week Lent Service with Soup & Bread Fellowship 5:30pm and Holden Evening Prayer Lenten Service 6:15pm @ St. James Lutheran Church.

**\*\*THANK YOU for signing up for soup & bread**

3/8 - Soup: Donna Zeigler & Leanne Sekora Bread: Evelyn and Carrie & Joy Goehner

## March Mission Offering benefits.....



### 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

## SPEAKING OF MISSIONS:

- **Our Montana/Wyoming ELCA Synod** has expressed a need for additional funds for missions. A personal donation to the Synod Mission program can be made through our church treasurer, Amber, who will see that your donation gets forwarded.  
Please make your check out to St. James and make a note on the memo line "Synod Mission".  
Your donation will be added to your yearly giving statement
- **Lutheran Disaster Response:**  
**RUSH EMERGENCY AID TO TURKEY**  
**Please pray** for the people in Türkiye and Syria impacted by the earthquakes. May God's healing presence give them peace and hope in their time of need.  
**Give Thanks** to generous donations, Lutheran Disaster Response is able to respond quickly and effectively to disasters around the globe. Your gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response (Middle East Crisis) will be used to assist survivors of the earthquakes and other disasters in the region.
- **Support Our Troops in Syria!**  
St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Park City, MT organized an effort to send needed supplies to U.S. Troops and their partners in Syria, coordinated by Pastor Russ Dewell (Irmgard Houghton's son-in-law), who is a National Guard Chaplain. We will be sending our packages to our U.S. partners to be shared by U. S. Troops. **Thank you to those who donated to this need! We appreciate your involvement!**

**Don't let others define us as irrelevant in the world.**

**"God, how much do you need this week?"** Donna Zeigler

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.....**

February 5 <sup>th</sup> Offering gratefully received	\$1,685.00
February 12 <sup>th</sup> Offering gratefully received	\$ 2020.00
February 19 <sup>th</sup> Offering gratefully received	\$ 870.00
February 26 <sup>th</sup> Offering gratefully received	<u>\$1,928.00</u>

**Total received this month \$6,503.00**

**\*\*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 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!!!!

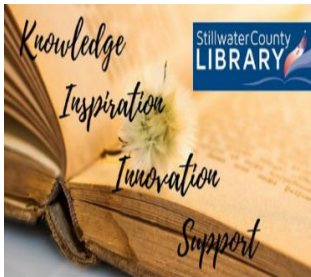
**ALSO, Every Wednesday**, continue to watch for the Word(s) on Wednesday email with a copy of Pastor Tonia’s weekly message or watch recorded on our FB page.

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 embroiderers 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 –BAD ART!

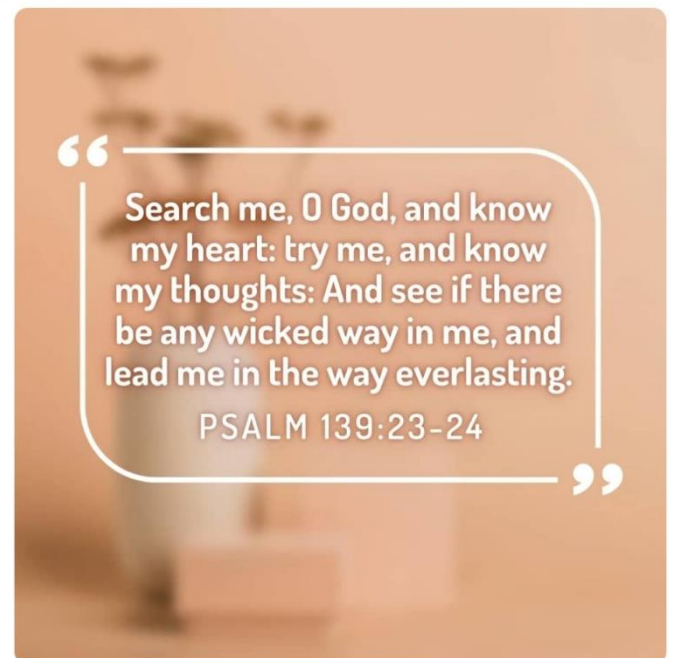
**Friday March 3<sup>rd</sup> & Saturday March 4<sup>th</sup> Craft Supply Exchange**

**Thursday March 9<sup>th</sup> – THUNDEROUS with Mandy and Natalie**

**On ZOOM 6-7:30PM**

Free and open to all – Register @ [tinyurl.com/thunderousMT](https://tinyurl.com/thunderousMT)

**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*

*Palm Sunday*

No midweek Lenten Service on Wednesday 4/5.



**Maundy Thursday**

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

**7 PM**

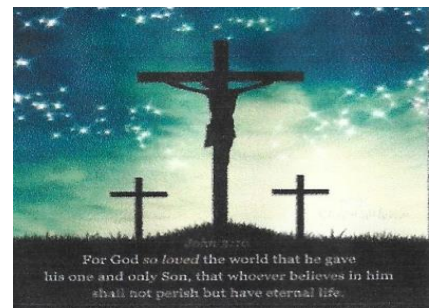
**@ COLUMBUS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

**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**