



Christ is risen! Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!



Into these days in the Easter season, please receive the gift of these reflections, provided for you by pastors of our congregations, LPAs and lay leaders, Bishop Jungling, and the staff of the Synod. As the Montana Synod is focused on equipping God's people for the work of ministry, (based on Eph. 4:11-12), it is helpful to focus together on a text and devotional reflection that encourages us to walk together as the Montana Synod being equipped to be the people of God, followers of Jesus, and bearers of the good news of God's love and grace.

Easter Season Devotions.....

starting on Resurrection Sunday, April 4th, 2021 and continuing for the fifty days of the Easter season until the day of Pentecost, Sunday, May 23rd, 2021.

****Download the attached PDF to this email.**

Mission Offering for April 2021 benefits...

The Special K Ranch



...for your continued support of our monthly missions.
Your generosity is welcomed and so appreciated!

WELCOME to St. James Lutheran Church

For the "Love of One Another" at St. James, we will continue to take every reasonable precaution to protect those who worship in-church each Sunday by honoring the 3 W's.....

- "WATCH" our physical distancing**
- "WEAR" our masks properly and for the entire service**
- "WASH" and/or sanitize our hands**

Please, if you do not feel comfortable to attend in person, you have the opportunity to watch FB Live or a recorded version later in the day.

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!
[FB Search: Saint James Lutheran Church of Columbus, Montana](#)

St. James Lutheran Church

205 E 1st Ave. N. Columbus, MT 59019
Leader: Pastor Tonia Fisher (406) 656-9557
Email: toniafisherclarkmt@gmail.com

April 11th, 2021 –
2nd Sunday of Easter

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



I rejoiced with those who said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD." Ps 122:1

Welcome, Announcements & Opportunities for Serving
**Blessings to all of you, whether you are joining us in the house of God,
joining us by watching the FB Live service or in spirit and prayer.**

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

GATHERING

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

.....Amen.

Gathering Hymn: "O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing"



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1. When Tho - mas first the ti - dings heard,
2. "My pierced side O Tho - mas, see.
3. No long - er Tho - mas then de - nied;



1. that they had seen the ri - sen Lord,
2. and look up - on my hands my feet;
3. he saw the feet, the hands, the side;



1. he doub-ted the di - sciples word. Al - le - lu - ia! To vs 2....
2. not faith-less, but be - lieving be." Al - le - lu - ia! To vs 3....
3. "You are my Lord and God!" he cried. Al - le - lu - ia!

Sing this after vs 3.....



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of the Day:

Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

Hear the 1st Reading: Acts 4:32-35

³²Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. ³³With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. ³⁴There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. ³⁵They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

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

Read Psalm 133 responsively, by whole verse:

¹How good and how pleasant it is, when kindred live together in unity!

²**It is like fine oil upon the head, flowing down upon the beard, upon the beard of Aaron, flowing down upon the collar of his robe.**

³It is like the dew of Hermon flowing down upon the hills of Zion. For there the LORD has commanded the blessing: life forevermore.

Hear the 2nd Reading: 1 John 1:1-2:2

¹We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—²this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—³we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. ⁴We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete. ⁵This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. ⁶If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; ⁷but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. ^{2:1}My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; ²and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

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

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

The Holy Gospel according to John: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Hear the Reading of the Gospel: John 20:19-31

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." ²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." ²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." ³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of the Lord: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon: "Seeing the Scars"

Hymn for Reflection: "Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery"



1 Tree of Life and awe - some mys - t'ry, in your
death we are re - born; though you die in all of
his - t'ry, still you rise with ev - 'ry morn, still you
rise with ev - 'ry morn.

2nd Sunday of Easter Verse

God of all our fear and sorrow, God who lives beyond our death
Hold us close through each tomorrow, Love as near as ev'ry breath
Love as near as ev'ry breath.

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:

Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

Passing of the Peace

MEAL

....we thank you for your faithful generosity to St. James in sharing your tithes and offerings which allows us to do God's work with our hands.

Offering Prayer

God of love, **you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table. Receive our lives and the gifts we offer. Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world; for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ. 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:

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

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

Invitation to Communion

Communion will look a little different during our season of Covid-19. It will still be the Lord's supper.

We **will** partake the body of Christ **with Pastor.**

We **will** partake the blood of Christ **with Pastor.**

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

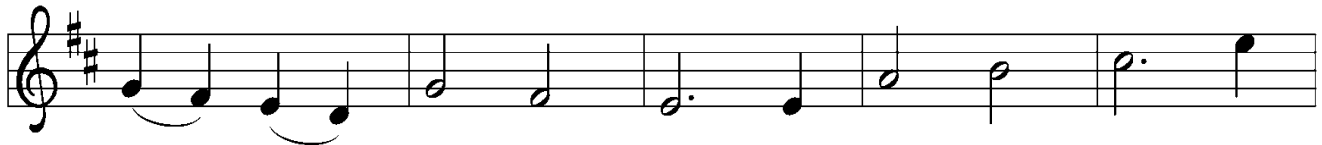
SENDING

Blessing..... and we say: **Amen.**

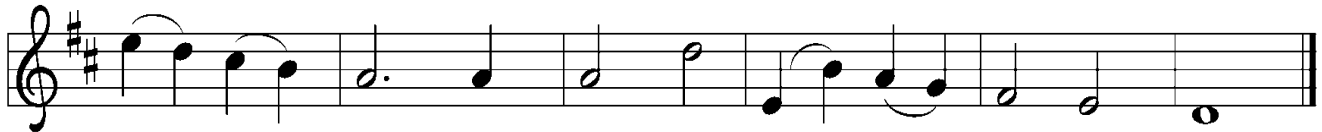
Sending Hymn: "Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing"



1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands
2 Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant
3 In ev - 'ry in - sult, rift, and war, where col - or,
4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the
5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to



emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,
scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet
Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the
this and ev - 'ry age, till earth and sky and



prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
here and now, and touch - ing ev - 'ry place and time.
loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.
life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.
o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

Dismissal:

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**
Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia! **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

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

Coming this week and beyond....

- Bible Study - Tuesday April 13th @ 2pm
- Watch Pastor Tonia's a "Word on Wednesday" live on FB April 14th or recorded on our FB Page or catch up on past letters you may have missed attached to the April weekly preparing for worship emails.
- Watch for more information and an invitation to join Pastor Tonia's Wednesday Zoom Social –Tonia's Fireside Chat @ 7pm. If you do not receive an invitation and would like to join, email Pastor Tonia toniafisherclarkmt@gmail.com and she will send you the invite

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING

April 2021 Altar Guild: Kim Behrent

April 2021 Cleaner(s): Greg & Kristi Lofing and Chris Fleury & RaeEllen Strickland

April Gate Keepers: *Donna Zeigler, Carrie Williams, Steve & Denise Cowan,
Larry & Joy Goehner and Brian & Sheri Luepke.*

Musician(s): Marge Sunvold and Betty Ames

For new prayer requests, please contact **Judy Bjorkman** at 321-2988, text or call or by email at jdjorkman@hotmail.com

PLEASE KEEP IN PRAYER...

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

We offer new prayers for:

Denise Cowan recovering from surgery on her eye.

Evelyn Williams, as she will be having a hip replacement surgery on Thursday April 15th. Please pray for the success of Evelyn's surgery, and for complete and rapid healing.

We offer continued prayers for:

Your comfort & peace God for the family & friends of Ric Hanson, Ruth Gaustad, Yasui Enano and David Hollingsworth as they mourn their passing.

Your continued healing God for Clara Wagner; Leslie's parents; Roger Mullin and Gary Lofing.

We lift up those living with cancer: Barb Potzman; Delbert Goehner; Dennis Gauthier; Arvid Barnam, Les Lane and Jim Wilson

All countries affected by the Coronavirus/Cofid-19 as they struggle to contain it and treat those who have contracted it. Please guide them; heal those who are afflicted with the virus; watch over their doctors, nurses and first responders; and halt its spread.

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

"Your faith in God's mission for St. James is unshakeable."

Thank you for your prayers and generosity.

May the Lord bless you and give you peace.

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).

St. James
Church  *Council*

Would you like the opportunity to serve on St. James' church council?

Your council is accepting nominations for yourself or for the name of another member to serve.

The council voted to accept Chris Fleury to fill out the remaining term of one of our council members.

Thank you! Chris!

Pastor Tonia Fisher toniafisherclarkmt@gmail.com

Church Council Members

Betty Ames, President bytames@yahoo.com

Steven Cowan, Vice-President denisecowan48@yahoo.com

Joy Goehner; Brian Luepke; Carrie Williams; Donna Zeigler

Church Financial Team:

Amber Lofing, Financial Treasurer & interim Financial / Council Secretary

****See your church directory or website for all council members phone #'s and email**

Please let a Council Member or Pastor Tonia know of your interest.

We would be happy to answer any questions you may have.