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

**On the website, scroll down to "Click here for the St. James FB link"

To our faithful followers at home or wherever you are, <u>PLEASE</u> let us know you are watching by writing a post or give your name. We'd love to hear from you!

St. James Lutheran Church

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

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

Sunday May 14th, 2023 – 6th Sunday of Easter

er

Prelude, 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 alland also with you.

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

GATHERING

THANKSGIVING for Baptism Confession

Risen Christ, wash away our sin and all which separates us from you. Empower our witness to your resurrection. Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.

Assurance of God's Love



Gathering Hymn: "Now Thank We All Our God"



Prayer of the Day

Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, 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 17:22-31

²²Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. ²³For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we too are his offspring.'

²⁹Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

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

Read Psalm 66:8-20 responsively by whole verse:

⁸Bless our God, you peoples; let the sound of praise be heard. ⁹Our God has kept us among the living and has not allowed our feet to slip. ¹⁰For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us just as silver is tried. ¹¹You brought us in to the net; you laid heavy burdens upon our backs. ¹²You let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and water, but you brought us out into a place of refreshment. ¹³I will enter your house with burnt offerings and will pay you my vows— ¹⁴those that I promised with my lips and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble. ¹⁵I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the smoke of rams; I will give you oxen and goats. ¹⁶Come and listen, all you who believe, and I will tell you what God has done for me. ¹⁷I called out to God with my mouth, and praised the Lord with my tongue. ¹⁸If I had cherished evil in my heart, the Lord would not have heard me; ¹⁹but in truth God has heard me and has attended to the sound of my prayer. ²⁰Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, nor withheld unfailing love from me.

Hear the 2nd Reading: 1 Peter 3:13-22

¹³Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; ¹⁶yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. ²¹And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

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

The Gospel Acclamation:

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

We sing: Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

The Gospel according to John:

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

John14:15-21

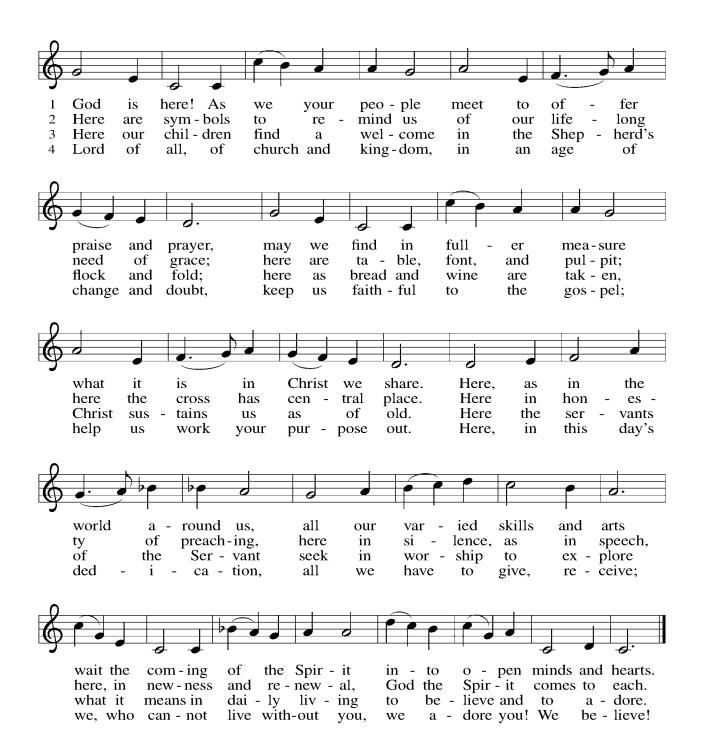
Jesus said to the disciples: ¹⁵"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. ¹⁸"I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.

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

Sermon: "Come and Listen"

Reflection Hymn: "God is Here"

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



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,

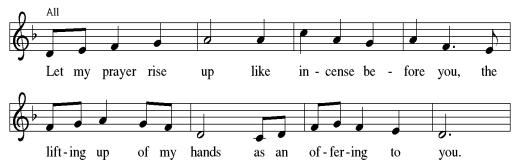
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People: "Let My Prayer Rise Up Like Incense Before You"

After each petition: P: Lord, in Your mercy,



Then after Amen full verse:



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: "We Are an Offering"



Offering Prayer

Generous God, in this meal you offer your very self. We give thanks for these gifts of the earth. In the breaking of this bread reveal to us the Risen One. In the pouring of this wine pour us out in service to the world; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Table Setting Hymn: "Be Not Afraid"



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 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.

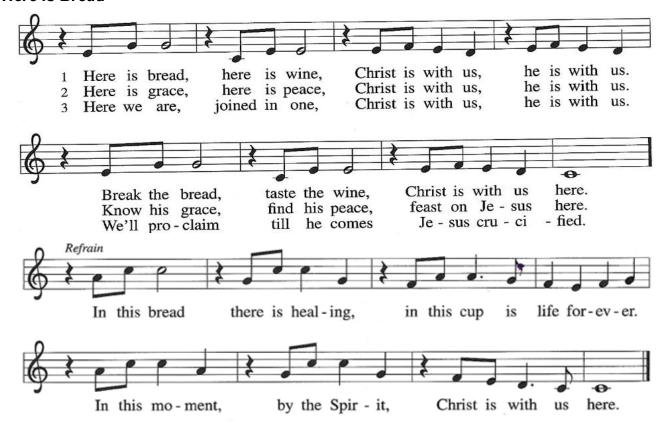
Mystery of our Faith. Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Invitation to Communion

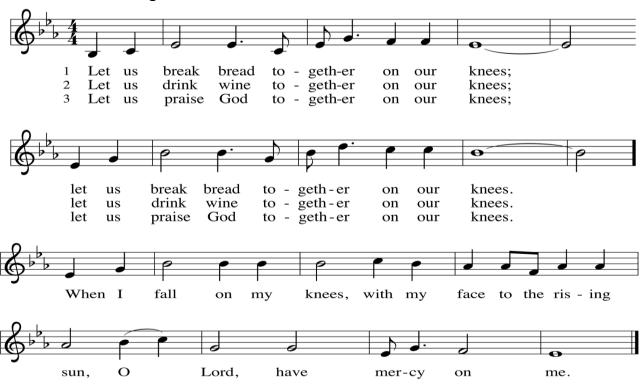
In this meal of bread and wine, we believe Christ is truly present forgiving sin, reconciling us to God and one another, and giving new life. Christ is host. Christ is the one who invites us to the table even while it is properly understood as the meal of the baptized. All are welcome at the Lord's Table.

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

"Here is Bread"



"Let Us Break Bread Together"



"Bread of Life from Heaven"



"O Living Bread from Heaven"

The

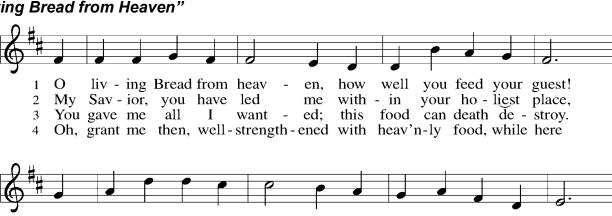
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gifts that you have

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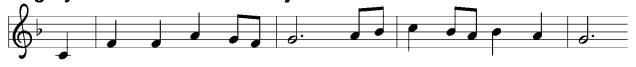


Prayer after Communion.... and we say: Amen.

SENDING

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

Sending Hymn: "Remember and Rejoice"



- 1 Re mem ber and re joice, re newed by floods of grace.
- 2 In life, in death, we trust in God's most ho ly name,
- 3 We pledge our-selves a new to flee the lures of hell, 4 God, bless us by your grace; re mind us of your care.
- 4 God, bless us by your grace; re mind us of your care. 5 Re - mem - ber and re - joice, re - newed by floods of grace.



We bear the sign of Je - sus Christ, that time can - not e - rase. for - ev - er traced by wa - ter sign, and sealed by Spir - it flame. to cling to Christ's com - mu - ni - ty, in jus - tice, peace to dwell. Re - new - ing Spir - it, fill us now, in - spire our work, our prayer. We bear the sign of Je - sus Christ, that time can - not e - rase.

Dismissal: Go in peace. Serve the Risen One. Music Published by Permission, CCLI #11445215 Worship Service recorded by Permission, CSPL #168651



Readings for 5/21/23 – 7th Sunday of Easter Worship Service:

Acts 1:6-14; Psalm 68:1-10, 32-25; 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11; John 17:1-11



Brian & Sheri Luepke for the wonderful coffee hour last Sunday! Bless you!

Pastor Tonia and Bill Strickland for attending St. John's United Annual Meeting.

A big **THANK YOU** to Bill Strickland who volunteered to be St. James' delegate to St. John's United, along with Betty Ames!



A WONDERFUL PROJECT FOR LENT



<u>FINAL NOTICE</u> to bring your "PIGGY" Bank coin/donation before May 21st, when the council will designate a project or projects, at their May meeting!! <u>Thank You</u> for your participation!

Your coin makes a difference. Jesus said, "feed my sheep". You are feeding God's people."

Donna Zeigler



A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING

May 2023 Altar Guild: Sheri Luepke

May 2023 Cleaner(s): Sheri & Brian Luepke and Bob & Maureen Hemphill

May 2023 Reader(s): Will someone offer to help?

May 14th, 2023 Communion Helper(s): Will someone offer to help?

Thank you, Brian & Sheri Luepke for helping with communion last Sunday.

May 14th,2023 Usher(s): Will someone offer to help?

Thank you, Joy Goehner for ushering last Sunday.

May 14th, 2023 Gate Keepers: Leslie Mullin & Bill Strickland

Musician(s): Marge Sunvold & Betty Ames

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......

May 7th Offering gratefully received \$1,540.00 **Total received so far this month \$1,540.00**

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 or set up auto-pay with your bank or through Tithe.ly.

<u>Tithe.ly</u> (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).

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 comfort and peace for Joan Elser and her family as she continues on to the end of her journey. Your healing and wisdom Lord for Clara Wegner; Joy Goehner; Pastor Tonia; Joy Goehner's sister, Karen Clemons; Merridy Gauthier; LaNita Maurer; Tessa Rouane's husband, Conner; Steve Cowan; Bonny Rouse; Pete Hegg; Gary Lofing; Kyme Noble.

Those living with cancer: Kaci Thomason; Brian Wanner; Bob Rouane; Aracelii Enano; Ashley Foster; Jenny Hansen Cheff; Shane Fouhy; Jim Wilson & 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. Nathanael-Volmer Lutheran Church in Dagmar, MT who recently lost their entire church to a fire. Ukraine and her people; Victims of violence and of natural disasters.

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



Jean Voldseth 5/5; Lance Sundberg 5/10; Kim Behrent 5/12; Rick Cox 5/12; AJ Makoff 5/20; Lian Radford 5/21; Jennifer France 5/21; Bev Kem 5/23; Ingrid Short 5/24; Mike Koski 5/29; Chip Kem 5/30



Happy May Anniversary

Lance & Patty Sundberg 5/17; Nick & Marian Lofing 5/22; Ken & Pam Carlson 5/27

**If we have your email,



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



ecard!

Other members, check your mailbox!

We certainly hope you are

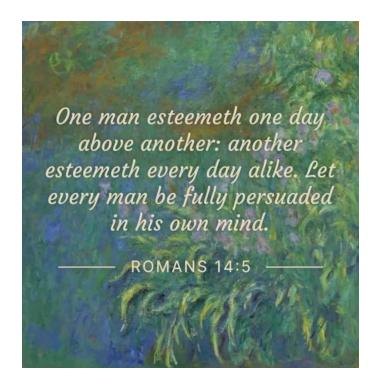
Having Fun with Faith...

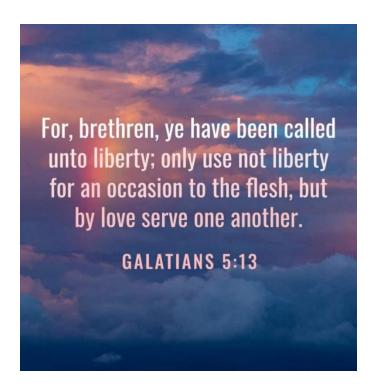
We hope you are enjoying the series of "Children's Worship Bulletins", which are **attached to this email & are found on our website.** These games are geared toward all age levels, so, everyone can join in the fun! **ALSO, Every Other Tuesday or Thursday,** watch for the email with the "Challenges Kit 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. Print the Bible WORDsearch Puzzles. Enjoy!



This week's Answers:





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 embroiderettes 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 Co. Library! 10:00am - Children's Story Time usually followed by a craft!

3:45 to 4:45 pm – New Middle School Program!





May Mission Offering benefits...



Future 2023 Dates:



before summer break!!

Congregational Church – 4:00pm

Join us for an evening of

Tacos and Bingo

May 17, 2023 St. James Lutheran Church

We will eat at 5:30 and start bingo about 6. Please bring a gift in a closed paper bag. (\$10 limit)



May 29th, 2023

** Watch here for list of area services



From the Christikon FB Page:



"This is a *toot your own horn* kind of post, but we're excited to be included in the Newsweek magazine 'America's Best Summer Camps 2023' list.

They chose 500 (our of more than 12,000 camps) ACA Accredited camps nationwide that stand out for quality programming, based on reviews and a survey of 15,000 parents.

Camp location and mission are all over the map. Christikon joins 11 other ELCA camps to make the list, and while we have a sense (and are told) our programming is valuable, it's nice to have that confirmed in this way.

For a more thorough breakdown of who is there and where they're from, here's a link to the article."

https://www.newsweek.com/rankings/americas-best-summer-camps-2023

CONGRATULATIONS, CHRISTIKON!

June Mission Offering benefits...



Columbus Fire & Rescue

**In memory of Randy Sekora & Harold Houghton!

Project Hope's Food Bank could always use donations!!

- June 2nd & 3rd Annual Synod Meeting in Great Falls
- June 4th Join Pastor Tonia for the Fellowship Service @ Meadowlark Assisted Living – 2pm
- June 9th Graveside service for Dennis Nickels @ 11am.
 Donna Zeigler, LPA officiating.
- June 10th Special K Ranch Open House NOON!



Watch for dates:

St. John's United Announces 2023 Summer Concert Series Lineup.....



- > July Mission Offering benefits Special K Ranch and we will kick off the gathering of school supplies for Project Hope!
- > August Mission Offering benefits Project Hope Backpacks!
- > August 18th Special K Fundraiser Dinner @ 5pm
- September Mission Offering benefits Columbus School's lunch & milk program
- > September 10th God's Work, Our Hands Event