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!

OR

facebook

FB Search: Saint James Lutheran Church of Columbus, Montana *Click on image or the link below to be directed to our website:* <u>www.lutheranchurchcolumbusmt.org</u>

**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

Click on image

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 7th, 2023 – 5th Sunday of Easter



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.

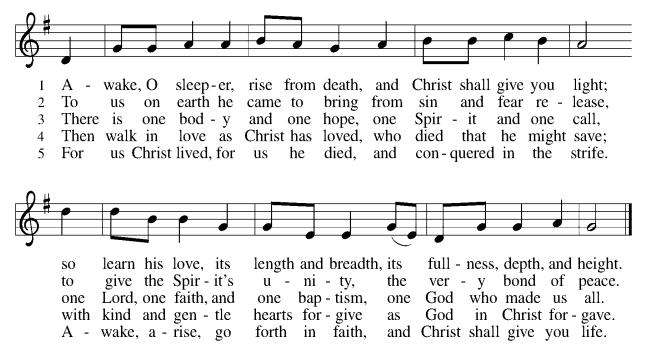
GATHERING

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: "Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death"



Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

Hear the 1st Reading: Acts 7:55-60

⁵⁵Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶"Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" ⁵⁷But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." ⁶⁰Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

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

Read Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 responsively by whole verse:

¹In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness. ²Incline your ear to me; make haste to deliver me. ³Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold; for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me. ⁴Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, for you are my tower of strength. ⁵Into your hands I commend my spirit, for you have redeemed me, O LORD, God of truth. ¹⁵My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me. ¹⁶Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love."

Hear the 2nd Reading: 1 Peter 2:2-10

²Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. ⁴Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For it stands in scripture: "See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." ⁷To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the

builders rejected has become the very head of the corner," ⁸and "A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. ⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

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"

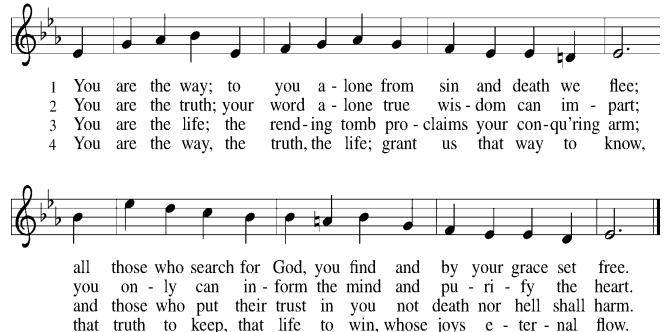
John 14:1-14

Jesus said to the disciples: ¹"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ²In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going." ⁵Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" ⁶Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him." ⁸Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." ⁹Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. ¹²Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

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

Sermon: "Back to The Future" Reflection Hymn: "You Are the Way"

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.

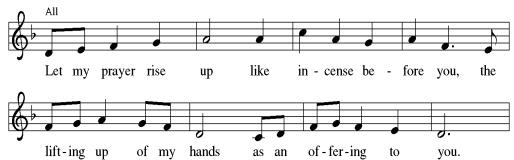
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People ELW #232 "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 Peaceand 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 #692 "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 praisewe 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.**

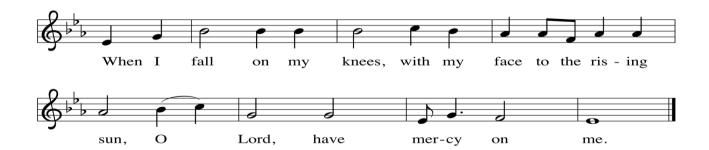
Mystery of our Faith. Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

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: *"All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly"*





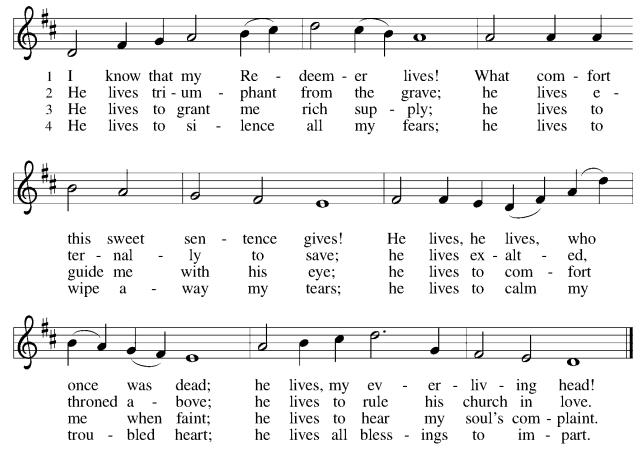
"Bread of Life from Heaven"



SENDING

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

Sending Hymn: "I Know That My Redeemer Lives" Vs 1-4



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

Readings for 5/14/23 – 6th Sunday of Easter Worship Service: Acts 17:22-31; Psalm 66:8-20; 1 Peter 3:13-22; John 14:15-21

TODAY May 7th - Stay and Invite Coffee Hour after worship! Brian & Sheri Luepke are our hosts!

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 7th, 2023 Communion Helper(s): Brian & Sheri Luepke

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

May 7th,2023 Usher(s): Joy Goehner Thank you, Bill Strickland for ushering last Sunday. May 7th,2023 Gate Keepers: Joy Goehner & Brian Luepke Musician(s): Marge Sunvold & Betty Ames

PLEASE KEEP IN PRAYER...

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

We offer new prayers for:

Joan Elser, Patty Sundberg' mother, who is out of the hospital, has moved back to Highgate Senior Living and is now on Hospice care. Lord of life we lift up prayers and ask for comfort & peace as Joan and her family and friends enter the end of her journey. Amen.

We offer continued prayers for:

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

"April Showers" for St. James **A big THANK YOU to those who have signed up to fill our cupboards!

An Opportunity to Serve St. James:



FIRST & FOREMOST: A big THANK YOU to Steve Cowan for your many, **St. John's United** many years of dedication and commitment as a delegate to St. John's United. Along with your wife, Denise, you have attended almost every delegate workshop & annual meeting, during your tenure! They will miss your presence as will Pastor Tonia & me. Betty!!

St. John's United is a 501 (c) 3 not-for-profit organization owned by 24 Lutheran congregations located in Montana and is proud of these strong partnerships. St. James Lutheran Church has made a commitment to this partnership and promises to pray for and help them in any way possible.

Delegate workshops are scheduled in the fall & spring to keep all partnership entities up to date with every aspect of St. John's growth. Their annual meeting is scheduled each May, where the St. James delegates, and other partnerships are invited to attend and cast our votes for the good of St. John's.

> Would anyone from our congregation like to volunteer to be one of the St. James' Delegates to St. John's United?

If you are interested, please let Pastor Tonia, Donna Zeigler or Betty Ames know. Thank You!

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."

1st of the Month Financials:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr		Actual totals
Actual Income:	\$5,750.00	\$6,767.26	\$6,445.00	\$16,862.20	=	\$35,824.46
Actual Expenses:	\$8,078.28	\$7,756.78	\$8,448.60	\$ 8431.02	=	<u>\$32,714.68</u>
We are OVER for meeting YTD EXPENSES						\$ 3,109.78

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. 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 May Birthday

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

american greetings 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" <u>PLEASE FORWARD & SHARE</u> 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:

Acts 20:32 And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.

For **WISDOM IS BETTER DATE:** And all the things that may be desired are not to be compared to it. Proverbs 8:11

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...



Gift of GREEN and/or ANY Canned Food

Future 2023 Dates:

• These two events are still going on TODAY Saturday May 6th & Sunday May 7th -





Wednesday May 10th CHOIR PRACTICE Congregational Church – 4:00pm

МАҮ 14^{тн}, 2023





Messiah Lutheran Church in Red Lodge

is celebrating the opening of their new building! Easter Sunday was a joyful first service, but the work of opening this building to the Red Lodge, Carbon County and Montana community is just beginning. May 14th is Celebration Sunday and we invite any Montana Clergy who are available to join us - we will be gathering at 9:00 a.m. for worship at 10:00. The color is red.





May 29th, 2023

** Watch here for list of area services

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. Pastor Tonia officiating.

• June 10th - Special K Ranch Open House - NOON!



Watch for dates:

- July Mission Offering benefits Special K Ranch and we will kick off the gathering of school supplies for Project Hope!
- > St. John's United Announces the 2023 Summer Concert Series Lineup.....



- > Summer Picnic at Pat Lashley's home in Park City
- > August Mission Offering benefits Project Hope Backpacks!
- > Special K Fundraiser Dinner August 18th 5pm
- September Mission Offering benefits Columbus School's lunch & milk program
- God's Work, Our Hands Event September 10th