

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, PLEASE 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 July 23rd, 2023 – 8th Sunday after Pentecost



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 all
.....and also with you.*

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

GATHERING

Confession and Forgiveness

*Merciful God, we confess we have sinned. We have failed to be honest. We have lacked
the courage to speak. We have spoken falsely. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and
grant us your mercy.*

Assurance of God's Love

Gathering Hymn: “Father, We Thank You” to the tune “Beautiful Savior”

- 1 Fa-ther, we thank you, for which you planted, your holy name within our hearts.
Knowledge and fa-ith, li-fe im-mortal, Jesus your Son, to us imparts.
- 2 Lord, you have made us, all of your children, and giv'n us food for all our days,
Giving in Chr-ist, the bread eter-nal; yours is the pow'r, yours be the praise.
- 3 Watch o'er your church O Lord, in mercy nurture us, save it from evil, guard it still;
Per-fect it with your grace, unite it in your love, cleanse and conform unto your will.
- 4 As grain, once sca-ttered, on the steep hillsides, was in this broken bread made one,
So, from all la-nds, your church be gathered, into your king-dom by your Son.

Prayer of the Day:

Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, so we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

Hear the 1st Reading: Isaiah 44:6-8

⁶Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel, and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god. ⁷Who is like me? Let them proclaim it, let them declare and set it forth before me. Who has announced from of old the things to come? Let them tell us what is yet to be. ⁸Do not fear, or be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it? You are my witnesses! Is there any god besides me? There is no other rock; I know not one.

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

Read Psalm 8:11-17 responsively by whole verse:

¹¹Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk ^l in your truth; give me an undivided heart to revere your name.

¹²**I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all my heart, and glorify your name forevermore.** ¹³For great is your love toward me; you have delivered me from the pit of death. ¹⁴**The arrogant rise up against me, O God, and a band of violent people seeks my life; they have not set you before their eyes.** ¹⁵But you, O Lord, are gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth.

¹⁶**Turn to me and have mercy on me; give your strength to your servant, and save the child of your handmaid.** ¹⁷Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and be put to shame; because you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.

Hear the 2nd Reading: Romans 8:12-25

¹²So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—¹³for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so we may also be glorified with him. ¹⁸I consider the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; ²⁰for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹so creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²We know the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; ²³and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the

Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in hope we were saved. Now hope which is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

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 Matthew:

We sing the response after the announcement: **“Glory to you, O Lord”**

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field;²⁵but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. ²⁶So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ ²⁸He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ ²⁹But he replied, ‘No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’” ³⁶Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” ³⁷He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴²and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”

The Gospel of the Lord:

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

Sermon: “How Does Your Garden Grow?”

Reflection Hymn: “We Plow the Fields and Scatter” to the tune “I Love to Tell the Story”

*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 We plow the fields and scatter the good seed on the land,
but it is fed and watered by God's almighty hand,
who sends the snow in winter, the warmth to swell the grain,
the breezes and the sunshine, and soft refreshing rain.

Refrain

All good gifts all around us are sent from heav'n above.

We thank you, Lord, we thank you, for your unending love.

- 2 You only are the maker of all things near and far.
You paint the wayside flower, you light the evening star.
The winds and waves obey you, by you the birds are fed;
much more to us, your children, you give our daily bread. **Refrain**
- 3 We thank you, our creator, for all things bright and good,
the seedtime and the harvest, our life, our health, our food.
No gifts have we to offer for all your love imparts,
but what you most would treasure— our humble, thankful hearts. **Refrain**

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

After each petition: *P: Lord, in Your mercy,* **C: hear our prayer**

After final petition: **ALL: Amen**

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: "For the Fruit of All Creation"

For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God.

For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.

For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us,

Most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Offering Prayer

God of field and forest, sea and sky, you are the giver of all good things. **Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, so the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Table Setting Hymn: "As the Grains of Wheat" ** Refrain only

As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill

were gathered into one to become our bread;

so may all your people from all the ends of earth

be gathered into one in you.

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

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:

"Come, Ye Thankful People, Come" ELW #693



1 Come, ye thank-ful peo - ple, come; raise the song of har - vest home.
2 All the world is God's own field, fruit un - to his praise to yield;
3 For the Lord our God shall come and shall take his har - vest home;
4 E - ven so, Lord, quick - ly come to thy fi - nal har - vest home.



All be safe - ly gath - ered in ere the win - ter storms be - gin.
wheat and tares to - geth - er sown, un - to joy or sor - row grown.
from his field shall in that day all of - fens - es purge a - way;
Gath - er then thy peo - ple in, free from sor - row, free from sin,



God, our mak - er, doth pro - vide for our wants to be sup - plied.
First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall ap - pear.
give his an - gels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,
there, for - ev - er pu - ri - fied, in thy gar - ner to a - bide.



Come to God's own tem - ple, come, raise the song of har - vest home.
Lord of har - vest, grant that we whole - some grain and pure may be.
but the fruit - ful ears to store in his gar - ner ev - er - more.
Come, with all thine an - gels, come, raise the glo - rious har - vest home!

“Let us Break Bread Together” ELW #471



1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;
2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;
3 Let us praise God 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.
let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.



When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing



sun, O Lord, have mer - cy on me.

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

SENDING

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

Sending Hymn: ELW #694 “Sing to the Lord of Harvest”



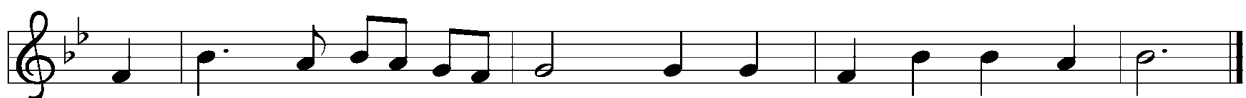
1 Sing to the Lord of har - vest your songs of love and praise;
2 God makes the clouds drop fat - ness, the des - erts bloom and spring,
3 Bring to this sa - cred al - tar the gifts his good - ness gave,



with joy - ful hearts and voic - es your al - le - lu - ias raise;
the hills leap up in glad - ness, the val - leys laugh and sing.
the gold - en sheaves of har - vest, the souls Christ died to save.



by him the roll - ing sea - sons in fruit - ful or - der move;
God fills them with his full - ness, all things with large in - crease,
Your hearts lay down be - fore him when at his feet you fall,



sing to the Lord of har - vest a joy - ous song of love.
and crowns the year with good - ness, with plen - ty and with peace.
and with your lives a - dore him who gave his life for all.

Dismissal: Go in peace. Share the Harvest. **Thanks be to God.**

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

Readings for 7/30/23 – 9th Sunday after Pentecost Worship Service:

1 Kings 3:5-12; Psalm 119:129-136; Romans 8:26-39; Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Thank
YOU

A big **THANK YOU** to Betty Ames, Kim Behrent, Steve & Denise Cowan; Bill Strickland & Leslie Mullin who have already volunteered to offer a ride for Sandi to Church on Sunday's.

Reminder..... sign-up sheet continues to need volunteers.

Thank you in advance for your kindness!



Reminder..... We are providing our act of our kindness "Taxi" Service for Sandy Yoder!

Leslie Mullin has signed up for the taxi service this Sunday 7/23 for Sandi!

Thanks!

KEEP IN PRAYER...

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

We offer new prayers for:

Pastor Tonia's friend and mentor, Episcopal Priest, Erick Fenton, who has been dx with prostate cancer.

Remember him, his wife Janet, Pastor's goddaughter, Lily, and Clarisa as they walk this journey.

We offer continued prayers for:

Joy Goehner and her family, Larry, Eric and Allen. God of Love & life, We lift up Joy and pray for Your presence, peace and comfort. Strengthen Larry and be with Eric and family and Allen and family.

Note: Joy is now residing at the Meadowlark Assisted Living. We are encouraged to visit her but let's make sure she doesn't tire from TOO many or TOO often.

Your healing and wisdom Lord for Joan Elser; Sheri Luepke; Clara Wegner; Pastor Tonia; Merridy Gauthier; LaNita Maurer; Steve Cowan; Bonny Rouse; Pete Hegg; Gary Lofing; Kyme Noble.

Those living with cancer: Kaci Thomason; Brian Wanner; Bob Rouane; Araceli 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.

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

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING

July 2023 Altar Guild: Sheri Luepke

July 2023 Cleaner(s): Brian & Sydne Wanner and Leslie Mullin & Betty Ames

July 23rd, 2023 Reader(s): **Will someone offer to help today?**

Thank you, Pastor Tonia for reading last Sunday.

July 23rd, 2023 Communion Helper(s): **Will someone offer to help today?**

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

July 23rd, 2023 Usher(s): **Will someone offer to help today?**

Thank you, Leslie Mullin for ushering last Sunday.

July 23rd, 2023 Gate Keepers: **Bill Strickland & Leslie Mullin**

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.....

July 2 nd Offering gratefully received	\$1,158.00
July 9 th Offering gratefully received	\$3,230.00
July 16 th Offering gratefully received	\$1,410.00
Total received so far this month	\$5,798.00

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; Auto pay thru your bank and **Tithe.ly**.

[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)



Happy July Birthday

Ty France 7/1; Vi Ekle 7/4; Alex Tangen 7/5; Chris Fleury 7/7; Karen McDonald 7/17; Lindsey Adams 7/17; Jim Dickey 7/21; Betty Ames 7/22; Gloria Brown 7/22; Lanita Maurer 7/22; Ken Hegg 7/23; Sally Bisch 7/23; Evelyn Williams 7/25; Pat Lashey 7/28; Denise Cowan 7/29; Judy Martin 7/30



Happy July Anniversary

Ian & Joni Morse 7/6; Butch & Kim Behrent 7/10; Brian & Sydne Wanner 7/18; Ken & Pete Hegg 7/23; Bill & Rae Ellen Strickland 7/24

****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 are **found on our website.**

www.lutheranchurchcolumbusmt.org

These games are geared toward all age levels, so, everyone can join in the fun!

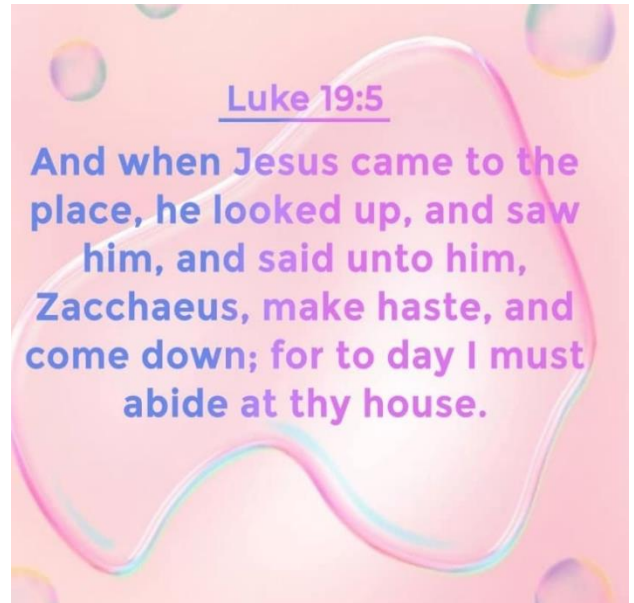
ALSO, attached to the weekly *Preparing for Worship*, watch for the email with the “Challenge Kits for Kids” for the summer.

PLEASE FORWARD & SHARE these bulletins & kits with your kids, grandkids, friends & friend’s friends!!!!

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:

Summer Reading Programs

in the county →

Park City
Tuesdays @ 10 am
Southwest Methodist Fellowship Hall

Columbus
Wednesdays @ 10 am
Stillwater County Library

Rapelje
Thursdays @ 2 pm
Stockman Cafe

Absarokee
Thursdays @ 10 am
Absarokee Lending Library

Fishtail
Thursdays @ 11:15 am
The Community Center

Reed Point
Fridays @ 10 am
Sawyer Ott Memorial Park



Japanese Calligraphy Workshop

July 25th 5:00 PM

All ages welcome

JOI PROGRAM JAPAN OUTREACH INITIATIVE

Stillwater County LIBRARY

Future 2023 Dates:



July Mission Offering benefits...

Special K Ranch

Project Hope's Monthly Need:

Purchase



for the upcoming 2023 – 2024 school year!!

Suggested supplies: College ruled: notebook paper & composition notebooks; Bottles of white glue; Washable Markers; Lg box of Kleenex; Disinfectant wipes



2nd to last - SUMMER CONCERT

St. John's United 5th Summer Concert is Thursday 7/27th!

Listen to "Hellroaring"

Opener: Cory Leone Johnson

**** on the St. John's Campus**



Thursdays in August

4-6:30pm

Downtown



FARMERS MARKET



BTLC Fall Women's Retreat



August 26th

9:00am to 12:30pm

Duffy Place

33 Upper Deer Creek Rd.

Register at <https://tinyurl.com/BTLCWelca2023>

We often hear about the historical church fathers, but what about our historical mothers in the faith? This community women's retreat, led by

Pastor Julia, will cover the faith and faithfulness of some of our foremothers and sisters in faith. Come learn about how their dedication shaped the church and the Christian tradition as it is today. This 3.5-hour retreat will have a learning portion, a craft time, and plenty of food and fellowship. Feel free to invite (and register) a friend. Please register by August 10th, so we can adequately plan for food and supplies.

