

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 9th, 2023 – 6th 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: ELW #856 "How Great Thou Art"



1 O Lord my God, when I in awe - some won - der con - sid - er
2 When through the woods and for - est glades I wan - der, I hear the
3 But when I think that God, his Son not spar - ing, sent him to
4 When Christ shall come, with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion, and take me



all the works thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the might - y
birds sing sweet - ly in the trees; when I look down from loft - y moun - tain
die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross my bur - den glad - ly
home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum - ble ad - o -



thun - der, thy pow'r through - out the u - ni - verse dis - played;
gran - deur and hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze;
bear - ing he bled and died to take a - way my sin;
ra - tion and there pro - claim, "My God, how great thou art!"

Refrain



Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to thee, how great thou



art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to



thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!

Prayer of the Day:

You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

Hear the 1st Reading: Zechariah 9:9-12

⁹Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. ¹⁰He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall command

peace to the nations; his dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. ¹¹As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. ¹²Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare I will restore to you double.

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

Read Psalm 145:8-14 responsively by whole verse:

⁸The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. ⁹**LORD, you are good to all, and your compassion is over all your works.** ¹⁰All your works shall praise you, O LORD, and your faithful ones shall bless you. ¹¹**They shall tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your power,** ¹²that all people may know of your power and the glorious splendor of your kingdom. ¹³**Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures throughout all ages.** **You, LORD, are faithful in all your words, and loving in all your works.** ¹⁴The Lord upholds all those who fall and lifts up those who are bowed down.

Hear the 2nd Reading: Romans 7:15-25a

¹⁵I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. ¹⁷But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. ¹⁹For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. ²⁰Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. ²¹So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. ²²For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, ²³but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? ^{25a}Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

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

The Gospel Acclamation:

**** Please stay seated for the reading of the Gospel.**

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

The Gospel according to Matthew:

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

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

Jesus spoke to the crowd saying: ¹⁶“To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another, ¹⁷‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.’ ¹⁸For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; ¹⁹the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.” ²⁵At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; ²⁶yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. ²⁸“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

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

Sermon: “Prisoners of Hope”

Reflection Hymn: ELW #777 "Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty"

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 "Come to me, all pil-grims thirst - y; drink the wa - ter I will give.
- 2 "Come to me, all trav-'lers wea - ry; come that I may give you rest.
- 3 "Come to me, be - liev - ers bur - dened; find re - fresh - ment in this place.
- 4 "Come to me, re - pen - tant sin - ners; leave be - hind your guilt and shame.



If you knew what gift I of - fer, you would come to me and live."
Drink the cup of life I of - fer; at this ta - ble be my guest."
Come, re - ceive the gift I of - fer, turn to me and seek my face."
Come and know di - vine com - pas - sion, turn to me, I call your name."

Refrain



Je - sus, ev - er - flow - ing foun - tain, give us wa - ter from your well.



In the gra - cious gift you of - fer there is joy no tongue can tell.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 5 "Come to me, distressed and needy;
I would be your trusted friend.
Come and seek the gift I offer,
come, your open hands extend." <i>Refrain</i> | 6 "Come to me, abandoned, orphaned;
lonely ways no longer roam.
Come and take the gift I offer,
let me make in you my home." <i>Refrain</i> |
|---|--|

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

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:

(words spoken, not sung)

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:

“Children of the Heavenly Father” ELW #781



Tryg - ga - re kan ing - en va - ra än Guds lil - la bar - na - ska - ra,
1 Chil - dren of the heav'n-ly Fa - ther safe - ly in his bo - som gath - er;
2 God his own doth tend and nour-ish, in his ho - ly courts they flour - ish.
3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er from the Lord his chil-dren sev - er;
4 Though he giv - eth or he tak-eth, God his chil-dren ne'er for - sak - eth;



stjär-nan ej på him-la - fäs - tet, få-geln ej i kän-da näs - tet.
nest - ling bird nor star in heav - en such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
From all e - vil things he spares them, in his might - y arms he bears them.
un - to them his grace he show - eth, and their sor - rows all he know - eth.
his the lov - ing pur-pose sole - ly to pre-serve them pure and ho - ly.

“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 #208 "Praise to You, O God of Mercy"



1 Praise to you, O God of mer - cy: thanks be to you for -
 2 From of old you loved and sought us: thanks be to you for -
 3 Praise to you, O God of mer - cy: thanks be to you for -



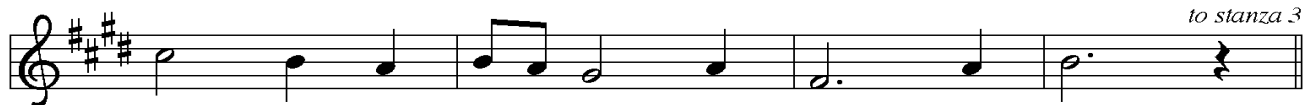
ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:
 ev - er! Truth and jus - tice you have taught us:
 ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:



thanks be to you for - ev - er!
 thanks be to you for - ev - er!
 thanks be to you for -



Strong is your faith - ful - ness, strong is your love, re -



mem - b'ring your cov - e - nant of life with us.



ev - er! Thanks be to you for - ev - er!

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 7/16/23 – 7th Sunday after Pentecost Worship Service:

Isaiah 55:10-13; Psalm 65: [1-8] 9-13; Romans 8:1-11; Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

**Thank
YOU**

Kim Behrent for the wonderful coffee hour
 last Sunday! Bless you!

A big **THANK YOU** to Betty Ames, Kim Behrent & Steve & Denise Cowan
 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!

Will someone offer taxi service this Sunday 7/9??

Thanks!

Please call or text Betty (406) 671-0090 & I will let her know you are coming!

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 9th, 2023 Reader(s): Will someone offer to help today?

Thank you, Pastor Tonia for reading last Sunday.

July 9th, 2023 Communion Helper(s): Will someone offer to help today?

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

July 9th, 2023 Usher(s): Will someone offer to help today?

Thank you, Leslie Mullin for ushering last Sunday.

July 9th, 2023 Gate Keepers: Bill Strickland & Carrie Williams

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:

Joy said thank you for all of the cards. Joy decided to come back to Columbus instead of staying in Billings and to be placed on hospice. She's ready to go "home". God of love & life: We lift up Joy and pray for Your presence, Your peace and Your comfort for Joy, as she comes to the end of her journey. Thank You for having allowed us to journey with her. Strengthen Larry at this time. Comfort him as he cares for Joy. Be with Eric and Allen. Give them wisdom, compassion and safe travels as they come visit their parents. We commit Joy to You knowing her love for You and Your love for her. Amen.

We offer continued prayers for:

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; 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.

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***

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 2nd Offering gratefully received \$1,158.00

Total received so far this month \$1,158.00

NOTE:

If you are giving a cash offering in church and would like to have it recorded on your yearly giving sheet, please place your cash into an envelope & include your name. Thank you.

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](https://tithe.ly) (click on this blue "Tithe.ly" link – takes you directly to St. James' account to sign-up)

Monthly comparison view of YTD financials:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	Actual totals
Actual Income:	\$5,750.00	\$6,767.26	\$6,445.00	\$17,107.20	\$9,715.00	\$4,692.47	= \$50,476.93
Actual Expenses:	\$8,078.28	\$7,756.78	\$8,448.60	\$ 8,431.02	\$6,629.30	\$7,488.61	= <u>\$46,832.59</u>

We are **ABOVE** on Income for meeting YTD EXPENSES **\$3,644.34**

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!**



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!!!!

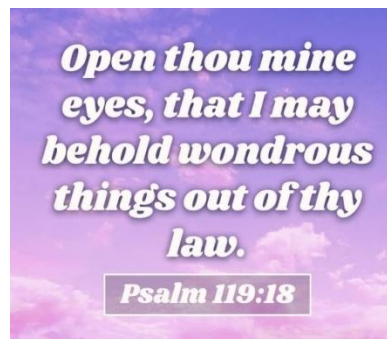
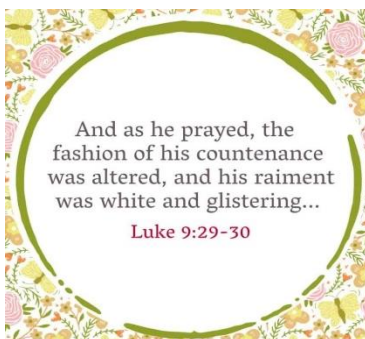
Every Wednesday, continue to watch for the Word(s) on Wednesday email with a copy of Pastor Tonia's weekly message or watch recorded on our FB page. Print the Bible WORDsearch Puzzles. Enjoy!



Note: The week of 6/28/23 did not get sent out to all while I was on vacation. 😞 Both week's were sent out attached to 7/5/23 Preparing bulletin.

**** See 7/2/23 Preparing for Worship for answers to those puzzles.**

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




Tomorrow.....



Seed saving workshop with Megan Poulette, Associate Professor of Environmental Science & Botany @ Rocky Mountain University.

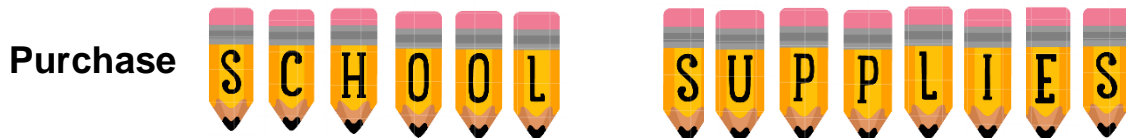
Future 2023 Dates:



July Mission Offering benefits...

Special K Ranch

Project Hope’s Monthly Need:



for the upcoming 2023 – 2024 school year!!

St. John's United 3rd Summer Concert is Thursday 7/13!

St. John's United

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

FREE • 7PM THURSDAYS
TITLE SPONSOR MISSION RIDGE

JUNE 29 THE CROSSINGS, LAUREL BAND OF DRIFTERS
OPENER: TAMMY BRADLEY STAPLES

JULY 6 SJU CAMPUS THE PACK RATS
OPENER: TOM BLANKENSHIP & JOHN COOKE

JULY 13 SJU CAMPUS JOHN ROBERTS - Y PAN BLANCO
OPENER: CHUCK HOLLAND & JASON MAHONEY

JULY 20 SJU CAMPUS THE CORE
OPENER: ELANA HAYDEN

JULY 27 SJU CAMPUS HELLROARING
OPENER: CORY LEONE JOHNSON

AUGUST 3 WYNDSTONE, HEIGHTS JESSICA EVE
OPENER: ANGIE LANGELIERS & ELISA OLSON

FOOD TRUCKS AVAILABLE
WELCOME TO BRING YOUR OWN PICNIC DINNER

SERIES SPONSORS

66th READERS' CHOICE
2022 WINNER

SCL Health ST. VINCENT
Your Intercommunity Healthcare

MOULTON BELLINGHAM

WESTERN SECURITY BANK

BILLINGS GAZETTE

YEARS



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.

