WELCOME to St. James Lutheran Church

Below are the suggested recommendations for our process of Worship each Sunday.....

- The wearing of a mask is now considered "optional".

 **Please respect the decision of others, as they choose to wear or not to wear a mask.
- You continue to have the opportunity to watch FB Live or YouTube Live on our Website, if you still do not feel comfortable to attend in person.

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

**Scroll down to "Click here for the St. James YouTube link"

Mission Offering for August 2021 benefits... Beartooth Manor, Meadowlark & Shipp's Assisted Living



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

St. James Lutheran Church

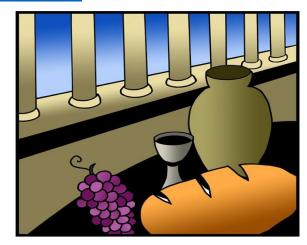
205 E 1st Ave. N. Columbus, MT 59019 Leader: Pastor Tonia Fisher (406) 656-9557 Email: toniafisherclarkmt@gmail.com

Sunday August 15th, 2021 – 12th Sunday after Pentecost

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 live/recorded service or in spirit and prayer.

Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty". (John 6:35)

Bread is present during most meals. We even refer to dining as a time we "gather to break bread." Bread is a mainstay; one can exist on bread and water. Every three years we spend five weeks immersed in sweet sticky dough. We hear scripture describing how Jesus is the bread of life.

When I was growing up there was bread served at every meal. Toast for breakfast, a sandwich for lunch, bread with dinner. Almost a ubiquitous food. Even in scripture. We think of how the Jewish people ate unleavened bread during Passover. We remember how God sent manna – the Bread of Heaven - to feed the Children of Israel as they wandered in the wilderness. We think of Jesus taking 5 loaves and feeding 5,000. We picture Jesus breaking bread during His last supper and telling His followers this is His body, given for them for the forgiveness of sin.

Bread is a staple in our diet. People want a sign, something tangible they can relate to when referring to God. In John we hear Jesus describe Himself this way, "I AM the bread of life, given for the life of the world." As bread fills our physical selves, Jesus as the Bread of Life feeds our spiritual selves.

Most countries have a specific bread which reflects their culture and during these next five weeks, we will celebrate the Eucharist with breads from across the world. A special thank you to Sheri Luepke & Pastor Tonia for providing the different bread for us each Sunday.

In this day and age unnatural ingredients have been added to bread and many are unable to tolerate bread in their diets, Jesus is still the pure bread of life given for you.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you alland also be with you.

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

GATHERING

Confession & Forgiveness:

God, our provider, help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.

Assurance of God's Love





Prayer of the Day:

Ever-loving God, your Son gives himself as living bread for the life of the world. Fill us with such a knowledge of his presence that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life to serve you continually, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

Hear the 1st Reading: Proverbs 9:1-6

¹Wisdom has built her house, she has hewn her seven pillars.²She has slaughtered her animals, she has mixed her wine, she has also set her table. ³She has sent out her servant-girls, she calls from the highest places in the town, ⁴"You are simple, turn in here!" To those without sense she says, ⁵"Come, eat of my bread and drink of the wine I have mixed. ⁶Lay aside immaturity, and live, and walk in the way of insight."

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

Read Psalm 34:9-14 responsively by whole verse:

⁹Fear the LORD, you saints of the LORD, for those who fear the LORD lack nothing. ¹⁰The lions are in want and suffer hunger, but those who seek the LORD lack nothing which is good. ¹¹Come, children, and listen to me; I will teach you reverence for the LORD. ¹²Who among you takes pleasure in life and desires long life to enjoy prosperity? ¹³Keep your tongue from evil and your lips from lying words. ¹⁴Turn from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.

Hear the 2nd Reading: Ephesians 5:15-20

¹⁵Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, ¹⁶making the most of the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸Do not get drunk with wine, which is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, ²⁰giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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 6:51-58

Jesus said, ⁵¹"I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread which I will give for the life of the world is my flesh." ⁵²The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" ⁵³So Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; ⁵⁵for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. ⁵⁶Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. ⁵⁸This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever."

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

Sermon: "Come Eat My Bread

Hymn for Reflection: "Be Thou My Vision"



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

.....and also with you.

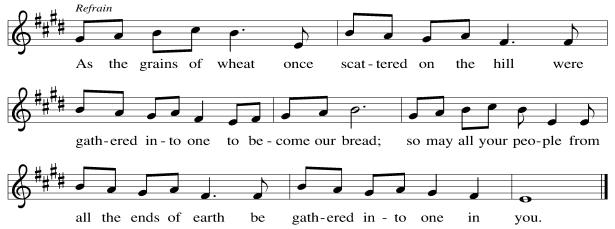
MEAL

....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

Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. Amen.

The Table is Set Hymn: "As the Grains of Wheat" (Refrain only)



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 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

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.

Today we will use Norwegian HAVREBRØD for our communion bread. HAVREBRØD breads were mainly baked from barley and oats and had a common fact that they could not be kept for more than a few days. They needed to be preserved. This led to the development of very thin, dry and crispy flatbreads (flatbrød) that could be stored for many years.

We remember in the eating of the bread, the body of Christ, that, "Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty." (John 6:35)

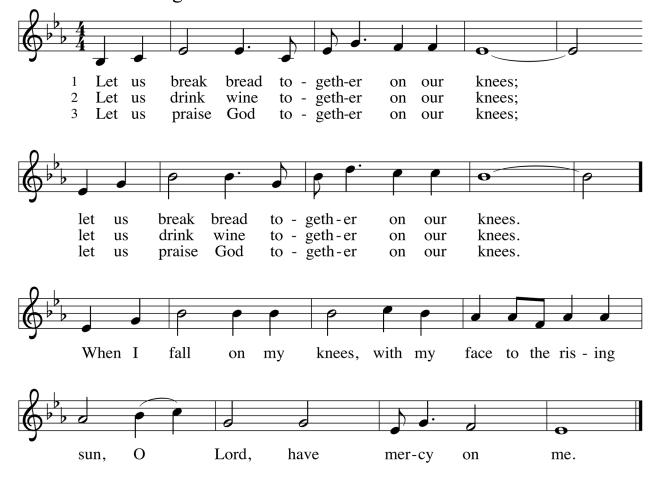
A special thank you to Sheri Luepke for providing this bread.

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

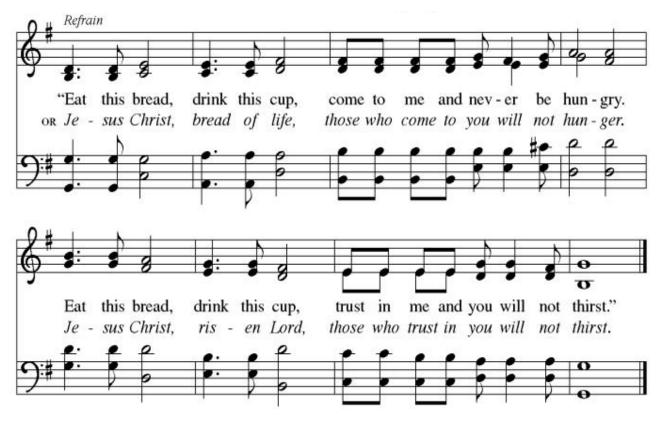
"I Am the Bread of Life" vs 1-3 only



"Let Us Break Bread Together on Our Knees"



"Eat This Bread"



SENDING

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

Sending Hymn: "Hallelujah, We Sing Your Praises"



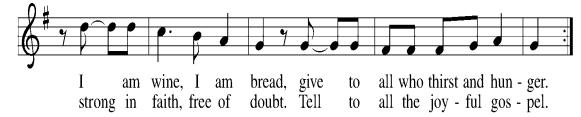




Repeat refrain



Repeat stanza, then sing refrain



Go back to Vs 2, then sing refrain twice.

Dismissal:



Our new Chalice and Paten were made by Daryl Northrup. Daryl, a local artist, has created them and gifted them to St. James. May God bless his hands, the communion set, and the wine and bread they hold on our altar.

Is there any member interested in assuming the ministry of Prayer Chain requests?



A group email list of those who have been interested in receiving this information, will be provided to you. Church members will contact you with a prayer request, providing you with names (ask for sp. if you are unsure) and all pertinent and correct information. You will then email the request to the specified group. Please let Pastor Tonia or Betty Ames know if you'd be interested in this ministry.

Thank you for your consideration.

In the meantime, continue to contact Pastor Tonia with your requests, either by text (406) 656-9557 or email toniafisherclarkmt@gmail.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:

Dennis Gauthier who is undergoing treatment for AFIB following a bout with pneumonia last spring. Give wisdom and skill to his doctors and strength to his heart. Comfort Merridy as she cares for him.

God's comfort for the family & friends of Curtis Preece, who passed away unexpectedly last Friday. This young man had a young family who is confused and in deep mourning at this time. Curtis had worked with Bob Hemphill.

We offer continued prayers for:

Baby Quincy Kay Davis, born August 5th to Carli (Lofing) & Rob Davis. We pray for strength & God's healing for Quincy and peace to her parents, grandparents, Kristi and Greg Lofing and family & friends.

Your continued comfort Lord for Dorcas Atzbach and your healing Lord for Teri Allsup; Bev Kem; Jerry Brown; Victoria Seymour; Zayden Sundberg; Bob Steinberg; Denise Cowan; Roger Mullin and Gary Lofing.

Those living with cancer: Aracelii Enano; Jenny Hansen Cheff; Barb Potzman; Delbert Goehner; Dennis Gauthier; Arvid Barnam, Les Lane and Jim Wilson

Our dry land. We pray for cooler weather and rain to restore it - and the people who live upon - to health. We lift up those fighting fires and preparing for more fires. For strength for the first responders, for miracles, and comfort for those who grieve. Those with COVID and those dealing with its lasting effects.

All countries affected by the Coronavirus/Covid-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.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING

August 2021 Altar Guild: Denise Cowan

August 2021 Cleaner(s): Jamie Hess and Kim Behrent

August 2021 Reader: Will you sign-up to help?

August 8th, 2021 Reader(s): Pastor Tonia

August 2021 Usher(s): Will you sign-up to help?

August 8th, 2021 Usher(s): Steve Cowan

August 2021 Communion Helper(s): Will you sign-up help?

August 8th, 2021 Communion Helper(s): Denise Cowan & Chris Fleury .

August Gate Keepers: *Donna Zeigler, Carrie Williams, Steve & Denise Cowan, Larry & Joy Goehner, Brian & Sheri Luepke, Chris Fluery & Judy Bjorkman*

Musician(s): Marge Sunvold and Betty Ames

Reminders..... Coming this week....

- The **SECOND** planning mtg will be held immediately after church **TODAY!** Please join us.
- Bible Study -Tuesday August 17th @ 2:00pm
- Watch Pastor Tonia's a "Word on Wednesday" live on FB August 18th or recorded on our FB Page or catch up on past letters you may have missed attached to an email or can be found on our Website.

St. James has INTERNET!

TO CONNECT YOUR DEVICE, PHONE or IPad/TABLET, CLICK ON - St. James

Then, USE THIS PASSWORD: 95theses1517





Take a few minutes to visit our St. James' Website.

Click on image or the link below to be directed to our website:

www.lutheranchurchcolumbusmt.org **

**Bookmark this page for your own future use

"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!

<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).



Happy August Birthday

Maggie Devries 8/6; Nick Lofing 8/7; Connie Bokma 8/8; Mariah Lofing 8/18; Gwen Bjorkman 8/19; Steve Smith 8/20; Arianna Lofing 8/25; Danny Ames 8/30; Nathan Lofing 8/31



Happy August Anniversary

Bob & Bev Kem 8/3; Jim Dickey & Sally Bisch 8/4; Harold & Laura Riensche 8/4; Brian & Sheri Luepke 8/29

St. James wants to CELEBRATE this year - 2021!





What does the planning team need us to do to make this happen in 2021?



ATTEND the SECOND PLANNING MEETING Sunday 8/15, immediately after Church!!

It will take ALL of us to make this happen!

FYI: Attend the meeting to receive your copy of ideas presented at the LAST meeting.