

WELCOME TO:

St. James' Worship Service - 9:30am

Clap Your Hands as We Sing to the Lord!

Worship Service will be held in the Sanctuary this morning.

We will be honoring the 3 W's.....

“WATCH” our physical distancing –

We have designated pews for us to sit in to make sure we are distanced properly.

“WEAR” masks for the “Love of One Another”.....

We want you to wear your mask during the entire worship service. Thanks.



Stillwater County News

As of Thursday, September 17th FB Page

From the Stillwater Billings Clinic are up to 51 cases with **14 active.**

Due to the directive of Governor Bullock, we are required to wear masks, when our county has 4 or more ACTIVE cases.

“WASH” and/or sanitize our hands

We ask you to, if you wish.....

facebook



**PRINT THIS BULLETIN..... to follow along with Sunday's
Worship Service - Streaming live or watch later!**

FB Search: Saint James Lutheran Church of Columbus, Montana

**ALSO, we would LOVE for you to leave us a greeting so we know
who's watching and enjoying St. James' Worship Service.**



St. James Lutheran Church

205 E 1st Ave. N Columbus, MT 59019

Leader: Pastor Tonia Fisher (406) 656-9557

Email: toniafisherclarkmt@gmail.com

September 20th, 2020 – 16th Sunday after Pentecost

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

Welcome to Worship! We are glad you have joined us here at St. James Lutheran Church.

Prelude

I rejoiced with those who said to me, “Let us go to the house of the LORD.” Ps 122:1

Welcome

Blessings to all of you, whether you are joining us in the house of God, joining us by watching the FB Live service or in spirit and prayer.

Announcements & Opportunities for Serving

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

GATHERING

Confession & Forgiveness

Faithful God, have mercy on us. We confess we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways. We pass judgment on one another before examining ourselves. We place our own needs before those of our neighbors. We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves. Make us humble, cast away our transgressions, and turn us again to life in you through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Assurance of God's Love

Gathering Hymn: "It Is Well with My Soul"

Vs 1 When peace, like a river, attendeth my way, When sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say, It is well, it is well with my soul.

Refrain: It is well with my soul, It is well, it is well with my soul.
(it is well) (with my soul,)

Vs 2 Though Satan should buffet, the trials should come, Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate, and hath shed his own blood for my soul.

Refrain: It is well with my soul, It is well, it is well with my soul.
(it is well) (with my soul,)

Prayer of the Day:

Almighty and eternal God, **you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

WORD

Hear the 1st Reading: Jonah 3:10--4:11

¹⁰When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it. ^{4:1}But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. ²He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. ³And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." ⁴And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" ⁵Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city. ⁶The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so, Jonah was very happy about the bush. ⁷But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. ⁸When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live." ⁹But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." ¹⁰Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

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

Hear the Reading of Psalm 145:1-8

¹I will exalt you, my God and king, and bless your name forever and ever. ²**Every day will I bless you and praise your name forever and ever.** ³Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised! There is no end to your greatness. ⁴**One generation shall praise your works to another and shall declare your power.** ⁵I will speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty and all your marvelous works. ⁶**They shall tell of the might of your wondrous acts, and I will recount your greatness** ⁷They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness; they shall sing joyfully of your righteousness. ⁸**The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

Please stand, as you are able, for the Gospel.

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Hear the reading of the Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16

Jesus said to the disciples: ¹"The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. ³When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; ⁴and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. ⁵When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. ⁶And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' ⁷They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' ⁸When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' ⁹When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. ¹⁰Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. ¹¹And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹²saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' ¹³But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first will be last.

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

Sermon: "Against the Grain"

Hymn for Reflection: "For Those Tears I Died"

Vs 1 You said you'd come and share all my sorrows;
You said you'd be there for all my tomorrows.
I came so close to sending you away,
But just as you promised you came there to stay, *I just had to pray.*

Refrain: And Jesus said, "Come to the water, stand by my side.
I know you are thirsty, You won't be denied.
I felt every tear drop when in darkness you cried,
And I strove to remind you that for those tears I died."

Vs 2 Your goodness so great I can't understand,
And dear Lord, I know that all this was planned.
I know you're here now and always will be.
Your love loosed my chains and in you I'm free, *But Jesus, why me?*

Back to refrain:

Vs 3 Jesus, I give you my heart and my soul.
I know now without God I'd never be whole,
Savior, you opened all the right doors,
And I thank you & praise you from earth's humble shores, *Take me I'm yours.*

Back to refrain:

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

MEAL

Offering Prayer

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. You have set before us these gifts of your good creation. Prepare us for your heavenly banquet, nourish us with this rich food and drink, and send us forth to set tables in the midst of a suffering world, through the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Hymn of the Day: "Do Lord!"

Refrain:

*Do, Lord, O do, Lord, O do remember me! Do, Lord, O do, Lord, O do remember me!
Do, Lord, O do, Lord, O do remember me! Look away beyond the blue.*

Vs 1 You're my light and my salvation, I won't be afraid!
You're the stronghold of my life, by You all things were made.
Foes attack me, hassle me, but I will never fade,
For I move in the strength of the Lord. ***Back to Refrain:***

Vs 2 Glory be to God the Father and to God the Son;
Glory be to God the Spirit, ever Three in One.
As it was in the beginning till our race is won
We can live in the light of the Lord ***Back to Refrain:***

Vs 3 You will hide me in Your shelter in the day of strife;
You'll conceal me in Your tent or set me on the height.
Now my head is lifted up above the storms of night,
So, I'll sing to the name of the Lord. ***Back to Refrain:***

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

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

The Lord's Prayer

Invitation to Communion

*Communion will look a little different during our season of Covid-19.
It will still be the Lord's supper.*

We **WILL OPEN** our pre-packaged wafer & partake the body of Christ **with Pastor.**

We **WILL OPEN** our pre-packaged juice & partake the blood of Christ **with Pastor.**

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

SENDING

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

Dismissal:

Remember the poor as you are sent to **reflect the love of God.**

Go in peace.

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

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST. JAMES THIS WEEK & BEYOND.....

Tuesday September 22nd:

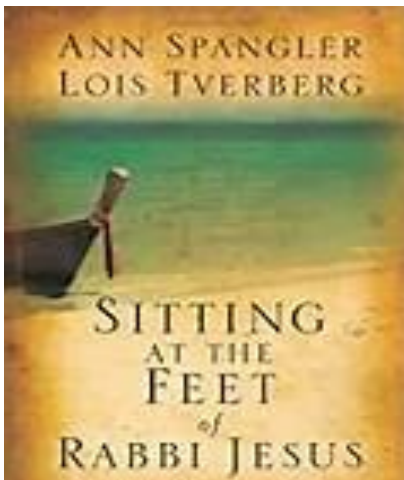
***Bible Study @ 2:00pm**

***B.Y.O.B. & B. - Bring your own Beverage and Bible**

We gather each Tuesday at 2pm to delve into God's Word.

We have been studying the Sunday readings to help us listen and learn from each week's lessons.

We have found this study helps us prepare for worship.



To deepen our understanding of scripture we are adding a new layer to our study. **Beginning in October**, we will read and discuss the book, *Sitting at the Feet of Rabbi Jesus* by Ann Spangler and Lois Tverberg.

For those of you who are not familiar with this book here is a review:

- ~ A rare chance to know Jesus as his first disciples knew him.
- ~ What would it be like to journey back to the first century and sit at the feet of Rabbi Jesus as one of his Jewish disciples? How would your understanding of the gospel have been shaped by the customs, beliefs, and traditions of the Jewish culture in which you lived?

- ~ *Sitting at the Feet of Rabbi Jesus* will change the way you read Scripture and deepen your understanding of the life of Jesus. It will also help you to adapt the rich prayers and customs you learn about to your own life, in ways that both respect and enrich your Christian faith.
- ~ *Sitting at the Feet of Rabbi Jesus* takes you on a fascinating tour of the Jewish world of Jesus, offering inspirational insights that can transform your faith. Ann Spangler and Lois Tverberg paint powerful scenes from Jesus' ministry, immersing you in the prayers, feasts, history, culture, and customs that shaped Jesus and those who followed him.

In these pages, you will:

- Hear the parables as they must have sounded to first-century Jews, powerful and surprising.
- Join conversations among the rabbis of Jesus' day.
- Watch with new understanding as the events of Jesus' life unfold.
- Experience new excitement about the roots of your Christian faith.

**If this sounds intriguing to you, let Pastor know. She will order a book for you.
The books are \$14.89.
Tuesday Bible Study is open to everybody.
We would love to have you join us as we sit at Rabbi Jesus' feet.**

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING US

September 2020 Altar Guild: Chris Hollingsworth

September 2020 Cleaner(s): Chris & Brett Hollingsworth

September Gate Keepers: Donna Zeigler, Brian & Sheri Luepke, Larry & Joy Goehner

(Any member attending church at this time is encouraged to help w/ this opportunity to serve. Thanks)

Musician(s): Marge Sunvold and Betty Ames

REMINDER.....

***Are you starting to put change into YOUR
"PIGGY" Bank or "BARNYARD" Bank?***



ELCA Good Gifts is your opportunity to provide critical support to the ministries and programs that mean the most to you and the people you love.



***There are extra banks in case you haven't picked yours up yet!
OR bring your coin in a baggie with your name on it
OR write us a check and designate in the memo "for Piggy Bank" fund!***

Just \$30 can provide a piglet to a family in need. When this little piggy grows up, she will give birth to as many as 16 piglets each year. Pigs help fertilize fields, provide food to eat and can be sold at market for much-needed income. What a BIG difference a pig can make! We are distributing these coin boxes for our entire congregation to collect offerings.

Just bring your bank full of coin (the banks are EXTREMELY HAPPY we are sharing our coins with them) or cash to the church and Donna will deposit it for you.

***Thank you, Donna for starting this opportunity to help
ELCA – God’s work, Our hands,
who emphasizes the saving grace of God through faith in
Jesus Christ, unity among Christians and service in the world.***

*For new prayer requests, please contact **Judy Bjorkman**
at 321-2988, text or call or by email at jdbjorkman@hotmail.com*

PLEASE KEEP IN PRAYER...

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

We offer continued prayers for:

Per the wishes of Jon Brown, a private, family graveside service will be held. Peace & comfort to all.

God’s peace and comfort for the family of Judy Bjorkman’s cousin. Kevin Ramer on his passing..

God’s healing for Roger Mullin, Gary Lofing and Jenny Steffenson.

We lift up those living with cancer: Dennis Gauthier; Arvid Barnam and Jim Wilson.

All countries affected by the Coronavirus/Cofid-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.

FOR YOUR REVIEW AND PRAYER **Our 2020 monthly budget to meet is \$8,008.33

FYI.....YTD (Jan – August 2020) (\$7,139.69) under budget

September 6th Offering Gratefully Received \$1,130 under monthly budget (\$6,878.33)

September 13th Offering Gratefully Received \$1,080 under monthly budget (\$5,798.33)

Continued reminder to give your monthly tithe or offering to your church...

“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 your church or ministry. Plus, you'll be able to track all your gifts, setup recurring, and more!

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).



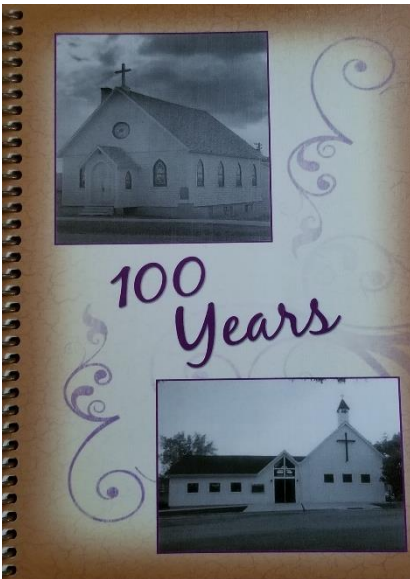
Happy September Anniversary

Nathan & Stacy Lofing 9/2; Joe & Mina Morse 9/4;
Greg & Kristi Lofing 9/27



Happy September Birthday

Bob Maurer 9/4; Steve Cowan 9/6; Barbara Salte 9/15;
Kyla Rouane 9/17; Thea Morse 9/18; Bob Kem 9/20;
Crystal Gauthier 9/24; Pete Lofing 9/30



Cookbooks have arrived!!
How exciting!

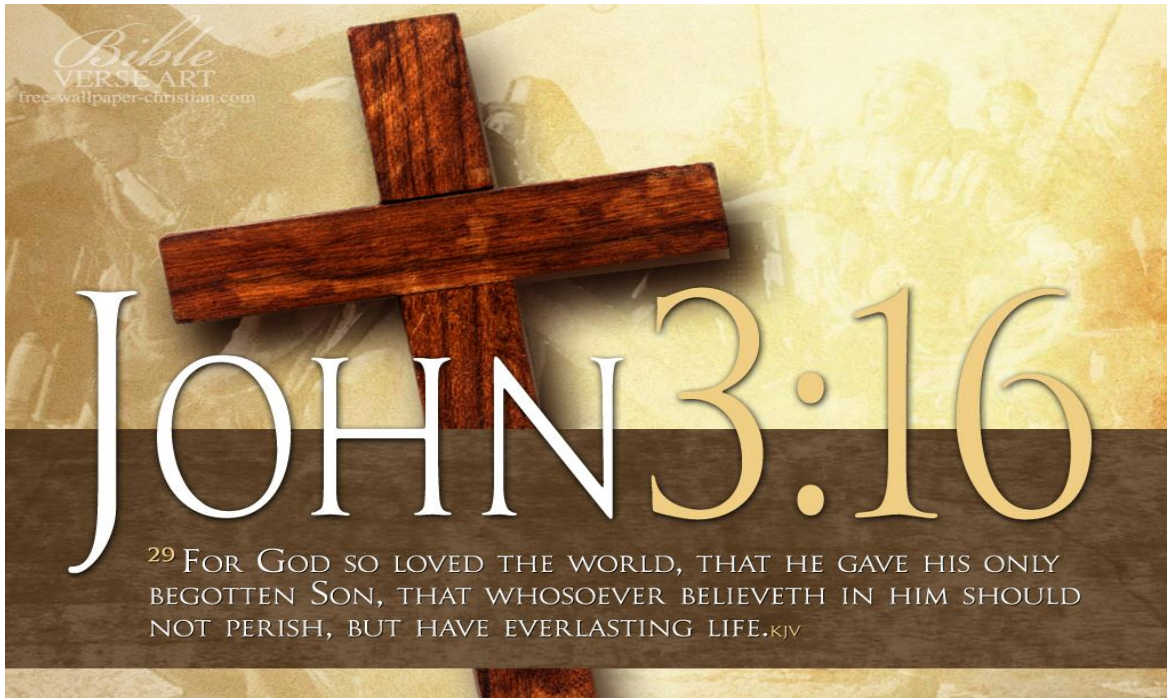
They are for sale NOW!
\$10 each

***A Collection of Recipes, History and Pictures
of St. James Lutheran Church!***

***Pick yours up at church on Sunday or get in touch with
Pastor Tonia, Karen, Denise or Betty and we will make sure
you get a copy or two or three. 😊***

Mission Offering for September benefits...

Pastor's Discretionary Fund



A FAVORITE FOR
ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH,
IS THIS BEAUTIFUL VERSE – JOHN 3:16

This is so fitting to use as our church Wi-Fi password.

TO CONNECT YOUR DEVICE,
PHONE or IPad/TABLET,

CLICK ON - ***St. James***

Then, USE THIS PASSWORD:

SJLvs3:16

Simple Reminders...



I'm tired of ugly I'm not talking about physical looks. I'm talking about ugly hearts, ugly souls and ugly actions. **I** want more kindness. **Kindness** comes from a place where loves grows, and glows. I want to see more of that.

Partial Quote by
M. Charles