

WELCOME:

We are having in-church worship service this
Sunday November 22nd @ 9:30am.

We continue to be honoring the 3 W's.....

“WATCH” our physical distancing –

We have designated every-other pew open in the sanctuary for us to sit in
to make sure we are still distanced properly.

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

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

We ask that you only hum or listen during the service.

Our song leaders are appropriately positioned in the church to sing safely.

“WASH” and/or sanitize our hands

*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.*

Please, if you don't feel comfortable to attend in person,
you have the opportunity to watch FB Live or a recorded version later in the day.

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

PRINT THE ATTACHED BULLETIN..... (starts on page 9)
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 or watch later!

[FB Search: Saint James Lutheran Church of Columbus, Montana](#)

**We appreciate hearing from all of you joining us online.
We would LOVE for you to share your insights or leave us a greeting.
We are blessed to count you among those who worship
at St. James Lutheran Church each Sunday morning.**

Wednesday November 19th:

Pastor Tonia recorded.....

A "Word on Wednesday" –

"Tell the Truth in Love"



Watch on St. James' FB Page –

****Click on the picture to be directed to the church FB Page.**

Welcome to a word on Wednesday.

We take a few minutes each Wednesday to hear from God's Word.

Let God speak to you.

Bring up memories, bring out deep thoughts.

Reflect on how God speaks to our world today, to the situations we are facing as individuals,

as a church, as a country, and as the world God so loves.

Or read the full Pastoral Letter below!

God wants us to grow up, to know the whole truth and tell it in love—like Christ in everything. We take our lead from Christ, who is the source of everything we do. He keeps us in step with each other. His very breath and blood flow through us, nourishing us - so we will grow up healthy in God, robust in love. (EPH 4:15-16)

Here is a familiar prayer written by REINHOLD NIEBURH

*"God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change,
courage to change the things I can, and wisdom to know the difference."*

I recently ran into a modern version of this prayer:

*Living one day at a time, Enjoying one moment at a time,
Accepting hardship as a pathway to peace,
Taking, as Jesus did, this sinful world as it is, not as I would have it,
Trusting that You will make all things right, if I surrender to Your will,
So I may be reasonably happy in this life, and supremely happy with You forever in the next.*

As the church year comes to an end, as 2020 prepares to wrap up – not quite soon enough for some, I found comfort in this prayer. A reflection on a year no one planned for. What do we do with what we've faced over the year? Can we see anything positive coming from this harried ride? What have we learned? How have we grown? Will we face next year, our next season, our next challenge differently?

Can we take this wild and crazy and, yes, sinful world, as Jesus did and not as we would want to?

To find peace in the midst of the stormy sea, we, like Christ, need to put our faith in the God of creation. The God who loves us. Can we trust God to bring something good out of what has transpired this past year? Can we, will we let go of what we want to control - and surrender to God's will?

Are we able to see God's grace lavished upon us even though we didn't ask for this, didn't expect it, couldn't imagine it, and didn't always handle well? God just asks us to trust Him for

His will to come from it all. To surrender our control of this out-of-control situation over to God. Why, so we can know the truth about who God is and share it with others. So, we can be like Christ, close to God and filled with love.

Jesus told us, "Do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own." (Mt 6:34)

We can't help but plan for the future, but we are not to be overly worried about things in the future which we cannot control. We can't lose sleep over things which may or may not happen. Let's focus on what we can control, how we react to what we face this day. We need to keep our trust in God – who does hold the future. Don't let our anxiety rob us of the life we have today, of the joy which is ours now. We can benefit by taking it one day at a time. That is really all we are capable of handling. We need to leave what may happen with God and rest in His peace – now and forever.

As we grow in God, we come to know and to tell the truth of God in love – with our words and in our actions. Let us follow the example Christ gave to us. With the Holy Spirit dwelling within us and strengthening us, may we grow strong in the Lord. Choose to dwell in God's love, become more Christ like and reflect His love to the world.

Let us pray.

Lord, help us to take one day at a time, enjoying each moment. Help us to accept the difficulties we face and let them lead us to Your peace. Give us Your wisdom so we can take this world, sinful as it may be, as Christ did, not as we would have it. May we trust You in all things, surrendering our lives to Your will, so we can enter into Your Joy. Amen

I bid you peace.



Happy November Anniversary

Chris & Brett Hollingsworth 11/1; Bob & Lanita Maurer 11/15



Happy November Birthday

*Linda Alton 11/4; Carli Lofing 11/4; Brenna Rouane 11/14;
Stacy Lofing 11/22; Amber Lofing 11/24*

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING US

November 2020 Altar Guild: Karen McDonald

November 2020 Cleaner(s): Bill & Karen McDonald & Randy & Nancy Stennerson

November 2020 Gate Keepers: Donna Zeigler, Brian & Sheri Luepke,

Steve & Denise Cowan and Larry & Joy Goehner

November Song Leaders at Worship: Brian & Sheri Luepke and Larry & Joy Goehner

Musician(s): Marge Sunvold and Betty Ames

“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).

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:

Jeff Fisher, Pastor Tonia’s brother, as he was recently diagnosed with Covid19. Please pray for his health and that he weathers the infection well.

James and Mana Steward, friends of Pastor Tonia, as both have been diagnosed with Covid19 and James has been hospitalized. Please pray for both James and Mana that they make complete recoveries from their infections.

Darlene Kelley, Denise Cowan’s sister, as she will be having Mohs surgery to remove a cancerous lesion from her nose. Please pray for the success of Darlene’s surgery, and for complete & rapid healing.

Dorcas Atzbach, Liz Cox’s mother, as she has recently tested positive for Covid19. She is asymptomatic so far. Please pray for Dorcas to remain asymptomatic and not become symptomatic.

The family and friends of Dolores Etchart as she passed away on Friday. Please pray for God’s love, peace, and comfort to rest upon her family and friends as they mourn her death.

Delbert Goehner, Larry Goehner’s cousin, as he has recently been diagnosed with cancer. Please pray for Delbert’s peace and comfort, and for complete healing from the cancer.

God’s loving presence to surround the residents & staff at Meadowlark Assisted Living and now at Beartooth Manor.

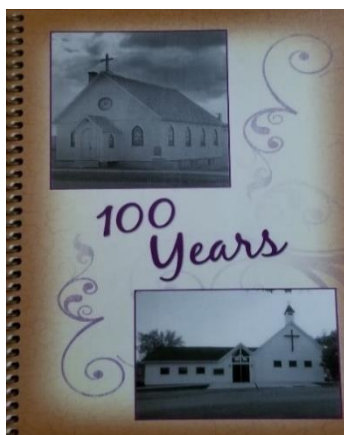
Your continued healing God for Bill Strickland, Janet Overhuls; Roger Mullin, Gary Lofing, Jenny Steffenson and Barb Salte.

We lift up those living with cancer: Dennis Gauthier; Arvid Barnam, Les Lane 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.**



Cookbooks have arrived!!

They are for sale NOW! \$10 each

100th Anniversary etched mugs

and wine glasses have arrived!!

They are also for sale NOW! \$10 each

Pick yours up at the church or let Pastor Tonia, Karen, Denise or Betty know how many you would like to purchase!

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

*Mission Offering for November benefits...
Project Hopes' "Thanksgiving Care Boxes"*



REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

EACH DAY - ADD AN ITEM TO A BOX.

**ON FRIDAY NOVEMBER 20TH or SATURDAY NOVEMBER 21ST,
DONATE THE CONTENTS TO PROJECT HOPE!**

HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO OUR COMMUNITY

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| October 26 –box of cereal | November 8 –package pasta |
| October 27 –peanut butter & jelly | November 9 –spaghetti sauce |
| October 28 –macaroni and cheese | November 10 –chicken noodle soup |
| October 29 –canned fruit | November 11 –cans of vegetables |
| October 30 –canned tomatoes | November 12 –stuffing mix |
| October 31 –Halloween candy | November 13 –boxed potatoes |
| November 1 –canned tuna | November 14 –canned sweet potatoes |
| November 2 –jar of applesauce | November 15 –can green beans |
| November 3 –dessert mix | November 16 –cranberry sauce |
| November 4 –can chili | November 17 –box of roll mix |
| November 5 –box of crackers | November 18 –pie filling |
| November 6 –package of rice | November 19 –box pie dough mix |
| November 7 –package of oatmeal | November 20 –Thanksgiving decorations |

Thankful

**Deliver to Project Hope and know that you bless
a family in Stillwater County.**



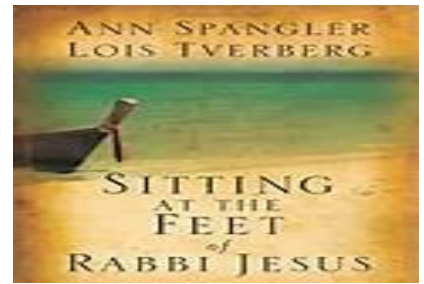
Blessings to all who helped with this project!!

Tuesday November 24th:

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

***B.Y.O.B.B. & B. - Bring your own Beverage, Bible & Book!**

We are reading and discussing the book, *Sitting at the Feet of Rabbi Jesus* by Ann Spangler and Lois Tverberg.



Wednesday November 25th: Pastor Tonia will record.....

A "Word on Wednesday" – Watch on our FB page.

Thursday November 26th, 2020



Have a blessed day and stay safe!

Your worship team wants to know...

**Watch your mailbox for this survey postcard.
Please fill out your information!**

Survey.....

Name: _____

Your worship team wants to know:

Will you attend **in-church** Christmas Eve Service @ St. James?

Please circle your answer(s):

Yes, we will **No, will not make it this year**
If yes, 5:00pm How many in attendance? _____
 7:00pm How many in attendance? _____

*This information will be compiled and presented to the council for their discussion and decision at the November 29th regular council meeting.
Congregation will be notified of the final outcome.*

We ask you to fill this postcard out immediately and drop it in the mail.

Thank You!!

This is a pre-stamped post card!!



Just drop it in the mail as soon as possible.

AGAIN, Thank you!

Look who says Hello.....



Picture borrowed from Shipp's Assisted Living FB Page.

Daughter Gerlinde gave me permission to share this picture of our beautiful friend, Irmgard.

She says, "Mom is happy, safe and misses her church family."

So good to "see" you Irmgard. We love and miss you too!

Sunday November 29th: **1st Sunday in Advent**

Throughout the Advent Season.....

*As we prepare for **Christmas**, it is a good time to look inward. Knowing who we are, helps us to recognize the baby in the manger. You are invited to.....*

**** Watch for next weeks newsletter**

Also, Sunday: Church Council Meeting immediately after worship

Save the Date:

Columbus Annual Parade of Lights

Friday, December 11th 7:00pm

Theme: Elf on the Shelf

*We can not sell lefse as in years past,
but stay tuned for other ideas.....*



P.S. This Elf on the shelf will need to quarantine for 14 days after his trip from the North Pole! This should help you parents! (if you've ever been involved with the shenanigans of this Elf - Your Welcome!) 😊



St. James Lutheran Church

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

November 22nd, 2020 – 25th Sunday after Pentecost

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

Welcome

Blessings to all of you, joining us by watching our remote service
or in spirit and prayer.

And Welcome to THE LIGHT OF CHRIST SERVICE

A Service celebrating the Light of Christ throughout the Year



Announcements & Opportunities for Serving

Opening Hymn: "Christ Be Our Light"

Vs 1 Longing for light, we wait in darkness. Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people, light for the world to see.

Refrain: Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

Vs 2 Longing for peace, our world is troubled. Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has pow'r to save us. Make us your living voice.

Refrain: Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ be our light! Shine in your church gathered today

Greeting:

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

Litany of light

L: Then God said, "Let there be light"

C: **and there was light.** Genesis 1:3

L: The light shines in the darkness,

C: **and the darkness did not overcome it.** John 1:5

L: The LORD is my light and my salvation; Psalm 27:1

C: **God is light and in him there is no darkness at all.** 1 John 1:5

L: For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness,"

C: **who has shone in our hearts.** 2 Cor. 4:6

L: For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light.

C: **Live as children of light.** Ephes. 5:8

L: Come, let us walk in the light of the LORD! Isaiah 2:5

C: **Let the light of your face shine on us, O LORD** Psalm 4:6

L: Let us then lay aside the works of darkness

C: **and put on the armor of light.** Romans 13:12

L: Arise, shine; for your light has come,

C: **and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.** Isaiah 60:1

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, you bring light to the darkness of our hearts. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Today we will travel through the seasons of the Church year, celebrating the scripture, songs, and the colors.

We begin the church year with the Season of Advent, a time of anticipation.

Hymn: "O Come O Come Emmanuel"

- Vs 1 O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel.
That mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel, shall come to you, O Israel.
- Vs 2 O come, O Wisdom from on high, embracing all things far and nigh:
in strength and beauty come and stay; teach us your will and guide our way.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel, shall come to you, O Israel.

The season of Christmas celebrates the coming of the Son of God.

Hymn: "Silent Night"

- Vs 1 Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child. Holy Infant so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.
- Vs 2 Silent night, holy night! Shepherd's quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar; heav'nly hosts sing, alleluia!
Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!
- Vs 3 Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from your holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord at your birth, Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

We celebrate the season of Epiphany, as the Light of Christ shines to all people.

Hymn: "We Three Kings"

- Vs1 We three kings of Orient are, bearing gifts we traverse a far,
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.
- Chorus:** O, Star of wonder, Star of night, Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding, Guide us to Thy perfect light.
- Vs 2 Glorious now behold Him arise, King and God and Sacrifice.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Earth to Heav'n replies. **Back to Chorus.....**

We celebrate the season of Lent, a time of darkness of reflection on our own mortality.

Hymn: "In the Cross of Christ I Glory"

- Vs 1 In the cross of Christ I glory, tow'ring o're the wrecks of time,
All the light of sacred story gathers round its head sublime
- Vs 2 When the woes of life o'er take me, hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
Never shall the cross forsake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.

We celebrate the season of Easter, as we see the light shine with the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Hymn: "Jesus Christ is Risen Today"

- Vs 1 Jesus Christ is Risen Today, Alleluia! Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia! Suffer to redeem our loss, Alleluia!
- Vs 2 But the pains which he endured, Alleluia! Our salvation have procured, Alleluia!
Now above the sky he's king, Alleluia! Where the angels ever sing, Alleluia!
- Vs 3 Sing we to our God above, Alleluia! Praise eternal as his love; Alleluia!
Praise him, all you heav'nly host, Alleluia! Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

We celebrate the season of Pentecost as the Light comes to remain with us through the coming of the promised Holy Spirit.

Hymn: "God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind"

- Vs 1 God of tempest, God of whirlwind, as on Pentecost descend!
Drive us out from sheltered comfort; past these walls your people send!
Sweep us into costly service, there with Christ to bear the cross,
There with Christ to bear the cross.
- Vs 2 God of passion, God unsleeping, stir in us love's restlessness!
Where the people cry in anguish, may we share your heart's distress.
Rouse us from content with evil; claim us for your kingdom's work,
Claim us for your kingdom's work!

We continue to grow in the light, realizing we have been called out of the darkness and now live in the light.

Hymn: #671 "Shine, Jesus, Shine"

- Vs 1 Lord, the light of your love is shining, in the midst of the darkness, shining;
Jesus, light of the world, shine upon us, set us free by the truth you now bring us.
Shine on me, shine on me:
- Refrain:** Shine, Jesus shine, fill this land with the Father's glory;
Blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy;
Send forth you Word, Lord, and let there be light!
- Vs 2 As we gaze on your kingly brightness, so our faces display your likeness,
Every changing from glory to glory, mirrored here, may our lives tell your story.
Shine on me, shine on me: **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

Offering Prayer

God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

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

Sending Hymn: "Christ Be Our Light"

Vs 3 Longing for food, many are hungry, Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others, shared until all are fed.

Refrain: Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

Vs 4 Longing for shelter, many are homeless. Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others, walls made of living stone.

Refrain: Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

Dismissal: The service is now finished and our service begins.

Now, we go out to **reflect the Light and Love of Christ.**

Music Published by Permission, CCLI #11445215

Worship Service recorded by Permission, CSPL #168651

*Thank you Donna Zeigler, LPA for officiating this morning
and*

Brian and Sheri Luepke for assisting.

*Simple
Reminders...*

