



The Third Sunday of Easter April 18, 2021

“When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, “Do you have anything here to eat?” They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate it in their presence.

He said to them, “This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.” (Luke 24:40-44)



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Today we hear Luke’s account of the final appearance of Jesus to his disciples. Jesus appears to the disciples in his resurrected body that is not devoid of the scars he received in his human life on earth. By showing the disciples his wounded hands and feet, Jesus demonstrated to his disciples that he remains in communion with them and in union with God. Even more profoundly, through his scars Jesus reaffirms his complete union with all of humanity which suffers and experiences pain.

Through his incarnation, Jesus restores the holiness and dignity of our human body as a temple of God’s glory. This has profound implications with regards how we as disciples of Christ are to approach and treat our humanity. The dignity and worth of our humanity (and all human flesh) is reaffirmed in the Incarnation.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Doug

Join us this Sunday, Worship Service 9:30 A.M. Pastor Martins Irbe

Scripture Readings Acts 3:11-21
I John 3:1-7
Luke 24:36-49

- **Happening Around St. James**

Children’s Sunday School is happening at 10:30. Join us
Adult Forum is happening at 10:30 as well. Join us.
Reminder.....coffee is available in the Narthex. We hope you stop and enjoy a cup with your St. James family.

COVID Precautions Forward:

- **Resume** the following April 11th:
 - kneeling for communion,
 - coffee and food availability,
 - handing out bulletins (also have some available on the table for anyone who wishes to just pick it up),
 - use of the Common Cup during Communion.
- **Stop** the following practices as of April 11^h:
 - ushers dismissing each pew at the end of the service.
- **Continue** the following:
 - encouraging “good sense” practices such as:
 - using hand sanitizer,
 - washing of hands,
 - if anyone who feels ill they should not attend in-person worship services, meetings or gatherings,
 - wearing of face masks when not social distancing,
 - using “non-contact” greetings including when sharing the peace and greeting at the door.
 - locating the offering plate in the Narthex (not passing the plate).
 - live streaming worship services.
 - sanitizing the common area surfaces of the church after the service.
 - holding one service.
- **Start** using the right side of the sanctuary **only** for individuals wearing masks and seated using social distancing (with the pew signs) and the left side designated as no social distancing with masks optional.
- **Grief Share . . . has returned.** You are invited to join our 13 week sharing, --April 7 through June 30th. This is a wonderful program of support for those who have lost a loved one and are struggling through the grief process. Time will be 6:30 PM every Wednesday. Questions? Contact Cindy Gregory.
- **Women’s Bible Study is Going.** Ladies join us for Bible Study here at St James, beginning on Monday’s at 11 A.M. Great time of sharing and growing in Christian faith.
- **Men’s Bible Study is Gathering.** Another sign we are returning to normal. Men join your brothers in Christ in Bible Study here at St James, at 9 A.M. on Tuesdays. It will be time well spent.
- **Daylighters will be starting** up next Wednesday, April 21st at 1 P.M. Questions, please contact June Gries.
- **Additional Bible Study Opportunity.** . . .Our Christian Education Committee is always looking for new ways for helping us grow in our discipleship. So included with this weekly update is a bible study for you to use in the comfort of your home.
- **Blood Drive** put on your calendar May 2nd. From 9:30 AM to 2 PM, the Red Cross will be here to receive blood that will save lives. Sign up in the narthex.
- **Continue to Hold our Call Committee in Prayer** as they await someone who can be a potential pastoral candidate. May they Holy Spirit move strong in our midst and in the heart of the person who will take the reins of leadership as pastor of St James.

Every month we pray God will bless our **Heartland Mission District** In April:

- ✠ Pray for blessings for the Heartland Mission District (HMD) congregation of Reformation Lutheran Church in Middlebury Indiana and Pastor Daniel Repp.
- ✠ Pray for a joyful Easter season celebrating the Resurrection, Ascension and Pentecost.
- ✠ Pray that the pandemic continues to subside and offer thanks for the vaccines.
- ✠ Continue to pray for guidance, support and strength from the Holy Spirit for HMD seminarian Ben Black.

Thank you all for your prayers.

I can be contacted at pastorstjamesnalc@gmail.com, or by phone 317 727-0612, or calling the St James office.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Doug