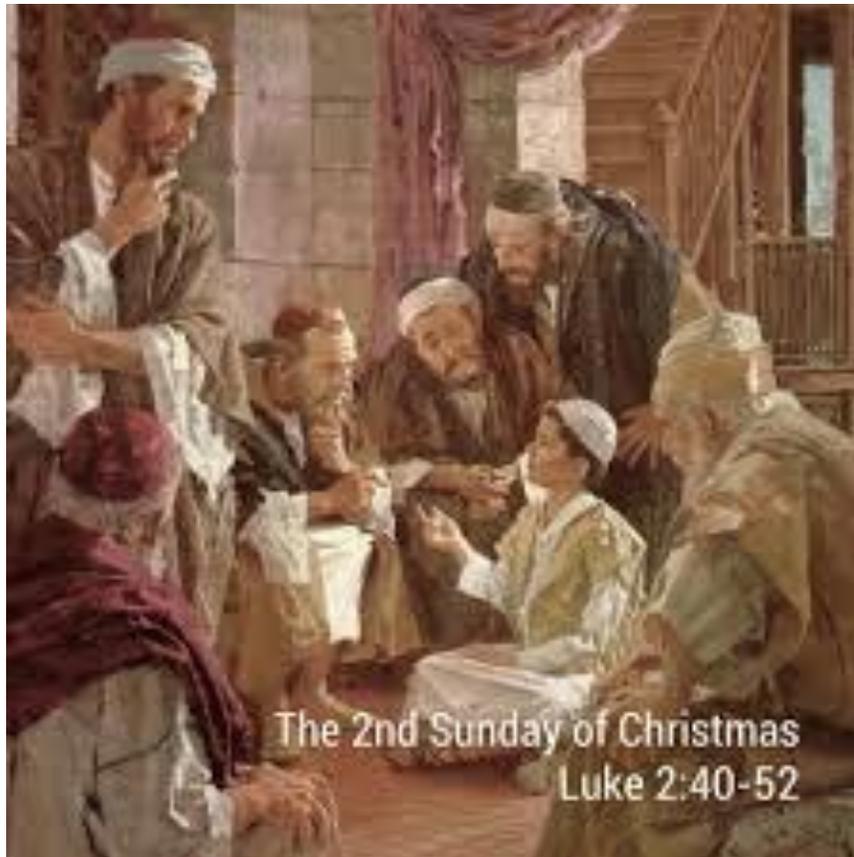


St James Lutheran Church

1741 State Street Greenfield, Indiana 46140 317.462.7340

*Our mission is to bring people to Christ,
encouraging relationship with Him and others*

Sunday, January 2, 2022 9:30 a.m.



A warm welcome to all! Let us join together with joyful hearts as we worship today. Extend the hand of friendship to those around you as we give thanks for the blessings of friends and family. May God be with you today and throughout the week!



1741 S. State Street
Greenfield, IN 46140
Phone: 317-462-7340
Email: officestjamesnalc@gmail.com

Welcome to St. James Lutheran Church

The mission statement of our congregation is:

To bring people to Christ, encouraging relationships with Him and others.

*Doug Gast, Interim Pastor
Joe Faith, Music Director*

TO ALL GUESTS...

- **THANKS** for joining us for worship today. We hope your experience will be one of being touched by God and of being enriched through our experience of fellowship. **Please fill out the Connection Card found in your bulletin and place in the offering plate.** And please come again!!

- **PARTICIPATE**
 - The worship service is printed in the bulletin and can also be viewed on the video screen for your convenience. Bulletins are emailed to all members each week.
 - **Please turn all cell phones and electronic devices off during the worship service.**
 - The service is streamed live and available online afterward on YouTube. Links can be found on the [St. James website](#) and [Facebook page](#).

- **COMMUNE** — All baptized Christians who believe that Jesus Christ is present with his body and blood in the bread and wine are invited to receive Holy Communion at the Lord's Table. The ushers will direct those receiving the sacrament down the center aisle to the altar rail.

- **NEED ASSISTANCE?**
 - **Hearing devices** are available for those who have trouble hearing through the loudspeaker system.
 - Hand sanitizer is available on the tables in the Narthex and in the pews.
 - Please feel free to ask an Usher for assistance, they will be happy to help you.

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

January 2nd, 2022

2nd Sunday after Christmas

9:30 a.m.

Meditation: "It is All in Christ" *It is crystal clear in the passage from Ephesians for today that when people are living their lives "in Christ" they have it all! They take on an identity that brings an inheritance, an abundant life, eternal life, and are forever marked with the Holy Spirit. There is nothing in this world that can provide benefits such as hope, and promise like the reality of Christ living in us. "In Christ" we can change our behavior. "In Christ" we have the presence of God. "In Christ" we are connected to our brothers and sisters. "In Christ" we have purpose and meaning in life. Again, we have ALL we will ever need!*

PRELUDE

Joe Faith

VIDEO

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please Stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: We begin our worship service as we always do in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen!**

P: Lord, we bring to you our sins-those things that drive a wedge between us and cause separation.

C: **We admit that often we control others or attempt to mold them into what we want them to be. We confess to you that we need to make changes in particular areas of our lives, yet we have not put forth the effort to do so. We know that the voice of Jesus was filled with true wisdom but we allow other voice to get the best hearing. We realize that you have called us to love unconditionally but we have put conditions on love in many instances. We accept the message of Christ and embrace the new life we have in Christ, yet we do not always live our lives in conformity to His example. We are aware of the pressures of this world which entice us away from Christ and his desire for us and our lives.**

(silence for personal confession)

We have laid our sins and shortcomings before you and are sorry, therefore we ask for your forgiveness.

P: As a called and ordained minister of Christ and by His authority, I declare to you that your sins are forgiven. In Christ, you are restored. We now have a reason to rejoice!

1 O God, our help in a - ges past, Our hope for years to come,
 2 Un - der the shad - ow of your throne Your saints have dwelt se - cure;
 3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood Or earth re - ceived its frame,
 4 A thou - sand a - ges in your sight Are like an eve - ning gone,

Our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, And our e - ter - nal home:
 Suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, And our de - fense is sure.
 From ev - er - last - ing you are God, To end - less years the same.
 Short as the watch that ends the night Be - fore the ris - ing sun.

CALL TO WORSHIP *(based on the Psalm of the day)*

A: Honor the Lord, you heavenly beings

C: honor the Lord for his glory and strength.

A: Honor the Lord for the glory of his name.

C: Worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness.

A: The voice of the Lord echoes above the sea.

C: The God of glory thunders.

A: The Lord thunders over the mighty sea.

C: The voice of the Lord is powerful;

A: the voice of the Lord is majestic.

C: The voice of the Lord splits the mighty cedars; and shatters the cedars of Lebanon.

A: In his Temple everyone shouts, “Glory!”

C: The Lord reigns as king forever.

A: The Lord gives his people strength.

C: The Lord blesses them with peace.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

A: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

A: Let us pray. Lord God, we are still rejoicing in the gift of your son, Jesus Christ, who came in to the world as a baby to reveal to us who you are and teach us about love, compassion, forgiveness, grace, hope, and peace. We are so amazed at the incredible love you have for us and it is for this reason, you took up residence with

us. You did not distance yourself from us but instead you came into the world to be with us and show us by example who you are. In Christ, we have everything for an abundant life on earth and salvation for the future. In Christ, we have our identity. In Christ, we have an inheritance forever. We thank you and praise you.

C: In Jesus' Name we pray, Amen

Please be seated

THE READING

Ephesians 1:3-14 (pg. 1006 in pew bible)

Through Jesus, we have been chosen and are adopted as children of God. We have been redeemed through His blood, according to the riches of God's grace. Praise be to the Lord God!

³ Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. ⁴ For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love ⁵ he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will— ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. ⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace ⁸ that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and understanding, ⁹ he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, ¹⁰ to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment—to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ. ¹¹ In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, ¹² in order that we, who were the first to put our hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory. ¹³ And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴ who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory.

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Please Stand

THE "GOSPEL ACCLAMATION" "O Little Town of Bethlehem" v.4

O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray,
Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels; the great glad tidings tell,
Oh, come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 2:40-52 (pg. 881 in pew bible)

⁴⁰ And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him. ⁴¹ Every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the Festival of the Passover. ⁴² When he was twelve years old, they went up to the festival, according to

the custom. ⁴³ After the festival was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. ⁴⁴ Thinking he was in their company, they traveled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵ When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him. ⁴⁶ After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷ Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸ When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you."

⁴⁹ "Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰ But they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁵¹ Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart. ⁵² And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.

L: The Word of the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

John Browder

SERMON HYMN

"Revelation Song"

Words on screen

Verse 1

Worthy is the Lamb Who was slain

Holy holy is He

Sing a new song to Him Who sits on

Heaven's mercy seat

Repeat Verse 1

Worthy is the Lamb Who was slain

Holy holy is He

Sing a new song to Him Who sits on

Heaven's mercy seat

Chorus:

**Holy holy holy
Is the Lord God Almighty
Who was and is and is to come
With all creation I sing
Praise to the King of kings
You are my ev'rything
And I will adore You**

Verse 2

Clothed in rainbows of living color
Flashes of lightning rolls of thunder
Blessing and honor strength and glory
And power be to You the only wise King

Chorus

Verse 3

Filled with wonder awestruck wonder
At the mention of Your name
Jesus Your name is power breath and living water
Such a marv'lous mystery yeah

Chorus

THE MESSAGE

Pastor Martins Irbe

Please Stand

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

P: How good it is to speak freely and boldly together of our faith in the one true God. Let's affirm our faith together with joy and thanksgiving.

C: We believe in the triune God- the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit- who are three persons in one. God is our Protector, our Creator, and our Father. He shattered the darkness with light through His spoken word. Jesus Christ is the Giver of Life eternal who was birthed into this world as a babe, fully man and fully God. He is our Rabbi, our Teacher, and our Friend. We believe in the Holy Spirit, who plants faith in our hearts and waters it to grow us to become more like Christ. We believe in the triune God- the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit- who are three persons in one. Amen!

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

SHARING OF THE PEACE

THE OFFERING

Now we join with Christians all over the world in worshipping God through our giving of our financial resources. If you are a guest, please do not feel obligated to participate in the offering. Instead, we hope that we are able to give something to you. We welcome you to give only as your heart desires. For members and friends, the vision and ministry of St. James depends on your giving. We thank you in advance for your generosity. This time of offering is a significant act of worship as we now offer our offerings and tithes.

Please Stand

OFFERING RESPONSE

“Praise God”

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: Let us pray.

P: 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.

GREAT THANKSGIVING (*spoken*)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: Blessed are you Mighty God, from the beginning of time, you had a plan and purpose for your people and when it was time, you sent your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior, into the world. You orchestrated all this in a humble setting with Mary and Joseph, to show forth the amazing love you have for us. It is in and through Christ that we remember the Word made flesh and the Light that has come into the world. As Jesus instructed His disciples and ultimately us, we are told to remember the death and sacrifice made on our behalf. Knowing that Christ is truly present in this Sacrament, we now ready ourselves to receive this gift of grace. It is indeed right, our duty and our joy. We praise your name and join their unending hymn:

(Congregation sings:)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of power and might: Heaven 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, forever and ever. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION

Ushers will direct those receiving the Sacrament down the center aisle. For those who prefer, white grape juice is located in the center of the pre-filled trays. Common cup is also available. If you wish to kneel at the communion rail as you receive the Sacrament, please feel free to do so. Please dispose of your cup in the basket neat the side aisle.

Please Stand

LAMB OF GOD

"Lamb of God"

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

grant us peace, grant us peace.



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mar - y's lap is sleep - ing?
 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate Where ox and ass are feed - ing?
 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peas - ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet While shep - herds watch are keep - ing?
 Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here The si - lent Word is plead - ing.
 The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; Let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;
 Nails, spear shall pierce him through, The cross be borne for me, for you;
 Raise, raise the song on high, The vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



Haste, haste to bring him laud, The babe, the son of Mar - y!
 Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The babe, the son of Mar - y!
 Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The babe, the son of Mar - y!



POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER

A: Let us pray. Holy one, we give you thanks that in this bread and cup we have feasted again on your endless love. Let that love overflow more and more in our lives, that we may be messengers to prepare your way, harvester of justice and righteousness, and bearers of your eternal word, our savior Jesus Christ.

C: Amen!

THE BENEDICTION

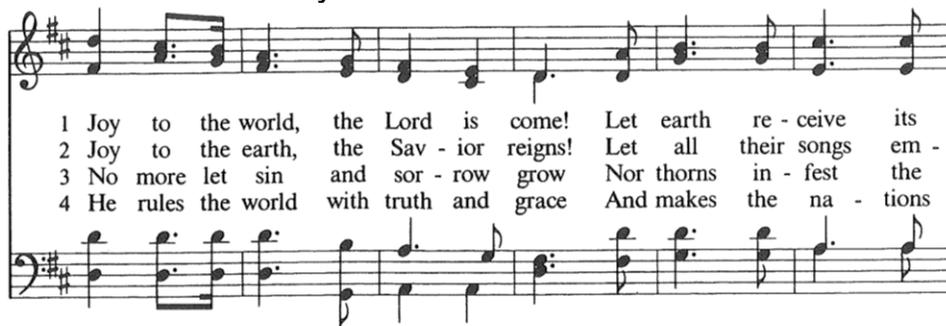
P: Go with the heart of God guiding you. Go with the Son of God living in you. Go with the Spirit of God working through you. Go with God's blessings so that you might be a blessing to one and all.

C: Amen!

THE CLOSING HYMN

"Joy to the World"

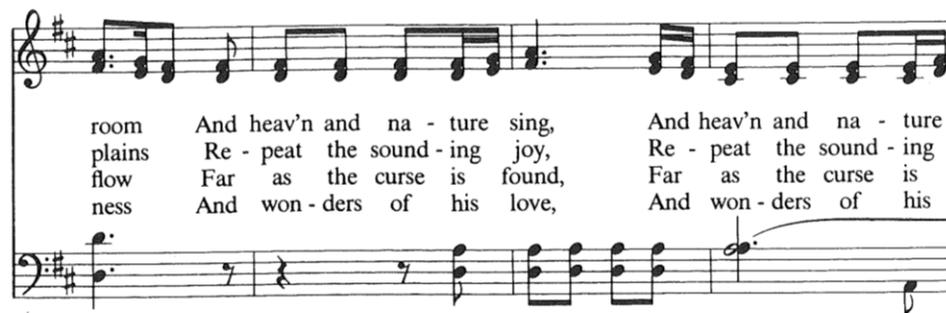
LBW 39



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive its
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their songs em -
3 No more let sin and sor - row grow Nor thorns in - fest the
4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na - tions



King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
play, While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
ground; He comes to make his bless - ings
prove The glo - ries of his righ - teous -



room And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture
plains Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing
flow Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is
ness And won - ders of his love, And won - ders of his



sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
found, Far as, far as the curse is found.
love, And won - ders, won - ders of his love.

In reverence of Christ, we invite you to follow the cross as it is carried out. You may use your hymnal to sing as you turn.

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Thank you to Pastor Martins Irbe for preaching today!

WORSHIP ASSIGNMENTS

This Week, January 2nd	9:30 a.m. Pastor Martins Irbe	Next Week, January 9th	9:30 a.m. Pastor Doug Gast
Assisting Minister	Tracy Guffey	Assisting Minister	Joan Shaw
Lector	Alison LaFlower	Lector	John Shaw
Ushers	Tats Matsuoka Donna Matsuoka	Ushers	John Browder Sheila Byran
Greeters	Betty Perotti	Greeters	Liz Clark Terry Clark
Altar Guild	Diana Clements-Scott	Altar Guild	Diana Clements-Scott
Communion Assistant	Tina Beck	Communion Assistant	Terri Gast
Acolyte	John Turner	Acolyte	Darrel Turner
Sound Technician	Ronald Kissell	Sound Technician	Dan Ivers
Video Technician	Neal Guffey	Video Technician	Geoff LaFlower
Bread Baker	Janet Farrow	Bread Baker	Janet Farrow
Children's Sermon	John Browder	Children's Sermon	Pastor Doug Gast
Counters (Monday) Wk1	Christian Gries Phil Miller	Counters (Monday) Wk2	Maggie Bode Cindy Gregory