



Lent 2
March 13, 2022

"How often have I desired to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her brood . . . under her wing . . . and you were not willing." (Luke 4:13)

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I grew up on a farm. And we had chickens, geese, and ducks, along with other farm animals. Jesus relates an image that everyone would have had first hand experience with . . . a hen and her chicks. Jesus says God is like a mother hen . . . wanting to gather . . . protect and keep all her little chicks close by. What a hen does out of instinct . . . God wants to do out of love. When Jesus arrived on the scene, the world had many disturbing views and ideas about God.



Yes, Jesus knew God was God of power majesty and might. Yes God was always present. Yes, God was all knowing. Into a world where moral and spiritual confusion reigned, Jesus brought a new and revolutionary view and understanding of God. God still cared about moral life and spiritual values. God was still the God of law and order. But there was something more. God is a God of love, of care, and of compassion. God is with us to protect, provide and holds us strong under His wings.

Join us this Sunday, Invite a Friend to Worship Service --9:30 A.M.

Scripture Readings

Philippians 3:17-4:1

Luke 13:31-35

Happening Around St. James

Sunday School is meeting this week. Welcome all our young disciples

Adult Forum back in session, now studying the book of Philippians. Join us.

Women's Bible Study Monday 11 A.M.

Men's Bible Study Tuesdays at 9 A.M.

Additional Bible Study Opportunity . . . included with this weekly update is a bible study for you to use in the comfort of your home.

- **Don't forget this Sunday we move our clocks an hour forward as we start daylight savings time.** You might want to get to bed a half hour earlier or take a nap after church. It is a sure sign of spring.
- **Our second Lenten Midweek will be on Wednesday March 16th.** We will continue in our sharing with the "Cast of Characters Around the Cross." This week's cast member will be

Barabbas. We begin at 6 PM with a delicious supper, followed by our devotional service at 7PM. Come and join us. You will be blessed.

- **Easter Flowers.** We have found a florist with Easter flowers. We have to have our order in by March 16th. Lilies, tulips and daffodils are available. They are \$16 for lilies and \$14 for lilies and daffodils. If you would like to share Easter flowers there is an order sign up on one of the tables in the narthex.
- **March 15th is our Church Council Meeting** at which time we will be voting on presenting Pastor Blue for extending a call as our next Pastor. Now is the time to double down in prayer as we seek the Holy Spirit's guidance both for us and Pastor Blue.
- **March 20, 2022 Special Congregational Meeting.** At this meeting, we will gather as a church body for the purpose of extending a call to Pastor Blue.
- **Lenten Midweek Offerings** are being designated to a mission that St James has supported for a number of years, "The Village of Hope" in Haiti. Haiti has gone through and continues to go through because of natural disasters as well as gang violence and fuel and food shortages. The Village of Hope serves students in both education and health center operations. Our donations will go for up front support as they reopen their Village in order to recreate a vibrant campus. In addition to salaries, money will be used to purchase school supplies, textbooks, medical supplies, and lunch for 600 students daily. We give thanks that St James can be a partner in ministry with them.



- **Keep It Shut...has been postponed until March 31 due to so many other activities.** . . . Keep It Shut is a six-session, video-based small group Bible study that explores how to control the tongue. Each session features a different character from the Bible, using them either as an example of someone to emulate or whose verbal actions we should avoid replicating. **Sign up if you would like to share in this engaging group study/discussion.** If you have questions, contact Tracy Guffey.
- **Time and Talent Sheets** are available in the narthex. Please pick one up and fill it out and return here to church. Thanks.
- **VBS Is Coming** Dates are set . . . we'll be gathering on 5 Wednesdays starting June 15, 22, 29, July 13 & 20. From 6 to 8 pm. We are looking at some exciting materials. Right now we are looking for a coordinator. You don't have to have kids to lead. If you are interested in leading this important education/fun/fellowship/adventure, please contact Joyce Kissell by March 6th. We are hoping to generate a lot of excitement.
- **Youth Progressive Dinner is set for April 30th.** Right now we need 4 host homes to host a course . . . appetizer, salad, main course and dessert. If you are willing to host one of the courses, indicate your interest on the connection card.

Here are prayers from our Heartland Mission District to include in your prayers of the church or any other prayer ministries of your Church for the month of March 2022

- Continue to pray for the crisis now of war in the Ukraine. Pray for strength for those that are suffering as a result of the actions by Russia. Pray for the Christians in both

countries - ask God to guide them as their faith is being tested in new ways. Pray for the safety of Americans that are in Ukraine and for the US troops headed to the region.

- Pray for all churches and their members to grow deeper in discipleship and more grateful for Christ's sacrifice on their behalf, during this Lenten season.
- Pray for blessings for the Heartland Mission District (HMD) congregation of Peace Lutheran Church in Connersville Indiana and Pastor Norman Dew.
- Continue to pray for guidance, support and strength from the Holy Spirit for seminarian Ben Black.

Thank you all for your prayers.

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