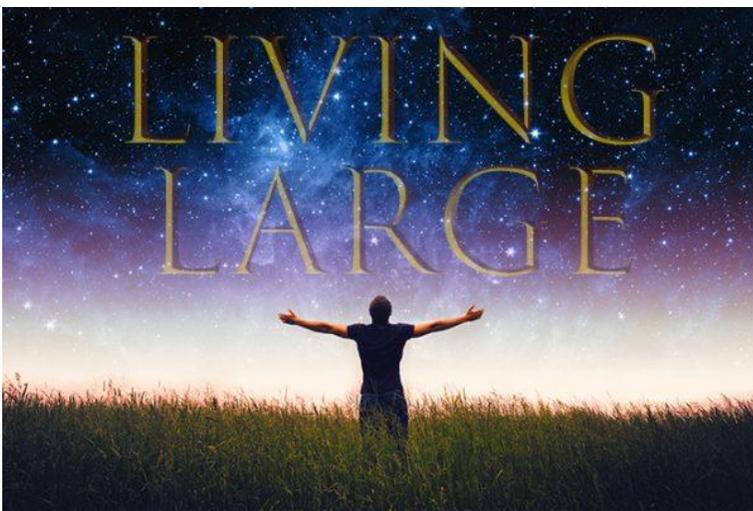


St James

Lutheran Church

1741 S State Street
Greenfield Indiana 46140

*The mission statement of our congregation is:
To bring people to Christ,
encouraging relationships with Him and others.*



The 2nd Sunday of Easter

Live Belief!

April 24, 2022

Meditation: Even locked doors could not stop Jesus from entering the room where the fearful disciples were gathered together. Jesus brought peace in the midst of fear and proven truth to a doubting Thomas who desired to see in order to believe. What hope we have knowing that Jesus meets us right where we are. Whether we are in a season of fear and anxiety, despair, or doubt, Jesus breaks through the locked doors of our lives to meet us there. He sees us, knows us, and invites us in return to see Him and know Him.

*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: office@stjamesnalc.org

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

April 24th, 2022 The 2nd Sunday of Easter 9:30 a.m.

PRELUDE

Joe Faith

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please Stand

† We Lift Our Hearts in Worship †

INVOCATION

P: the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

P: We come before you Jesus our sins, our failures, our sinfulness...

(silence)

P: Lord, we confess that just like Thomas we can wrestle with doubts.

C: **We can struggle with our faith,**

We avoid our questions,

We don't let others struggle with faith.

Forgive us for demanding answers to questions & failing to welcome those who doubt.

Help us experience your presence now and the truth of your love and grace..

P: Know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ is real. Jesus has died, taking the weight of our sins, failures and even our doubts and struggles. He alone rose from the dead and has overcome all that separates us from God. He lives now and meets you in your life. Experience the complete forgiveness of your sins in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen**

1 Now all the vault of heav'n re-sounds In praise of love that
 2 E - ter - nal is the gift he brings, There - fore our heart with
 3 Oh, fill us, Lord, with daunt-less love; Set heart and will on
 4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring And with the heav'n - ly

still a - bounds: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 rap - ture sings: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 things a - bove That we con - quer through your tri - umph;
 bless-ed sing: "Christ has tri - umphed! Al - le - lu - ia!"

Sing, choirs of an - gels, loud and clear! Re - peat their song
 Now still he comes to give us life And by his pres -
 Grant grace suf - fi - cient for life's day That by our lives
 Be to the Fa - ther, and our Lord, To Spir - it blest,

of glo - ry here: "Christ has tri - umphed! Christ has tri - umphed!"
 ence stills all strife. Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!
 we tru - ly say: Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!
 most ho - ly God, All the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

CALL TO WORSHIP

A: We come today in faith in our living Lord.

C: We come, living in the midst of doubts and questions.

A: We come today to worship the Living Lord!

C: Fill us with your Spirit to believe!

A: We gather now in the name of God the Father who created us, Christ who redeemed us in the Holy Spirit who guides us each day.

C: Amen!

OPENING PRAYER

A: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

A: Let us pray

C: Loving Lord Jesus, just as Thomas struggled to believe, so do we. We live faced with doubt, questions and struggles. You met Thomas where he was, so meet us here now. Give us your Holy Spirit now, fill us with your Spirit as we turn to your Holy Word. Empower us to believe, fill us with faith, help us believe. In Jesus' holy name. Amen.

Please be seated

† We Hear God's Word †

[Read aloud both the introduction and Scripture]

FIRST READING

Acts 5:27-32

(pg. 940 in pew Bible)

The high priest questions the apostles on why they have not obeyed their orders. Peter and the others replied that they must obey God not man for they know that God exalted Christ to be Savior.

²⁷The apostles were brought in and made to appear before the Sanhedrin to be questioned by the high priest. ²⁸"We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name," he said. "Yet you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and are determined to make us guilty of this man's blood." ²⁹Peter and the other apostles replied: "We must obey God rather than human beings!" ³⁰The God of our ancestors raised Jesus from the dead—whom you killed by hanging him on a cross. ³¹God exalted him to his own right hand as Prince and Savior that he might bring Israel to repentance and forgive their sins. ³²We are witnesses of these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him."

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Please Stand

THE “GOSPEL ACCLAMATION”

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

He’s my Savior, He’s my Savior, He’s my Savior, He’s my Savior
I will praise Him, I will praise Him, I will praise Him, I will praise Him

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 20:19-31

(pg. 932 in pew Bible)

Even locked doors could not stop Jesus from entering the room where the fearful disciples were gathered together. Jesus brought peace in the midst of fear and proven truth to a doubting Thomas who desired to see in order to believe. What hope we have knowing that Jesus meets us right where we are. Whether we are in a season of fear and anxiety, despair, or doubt, Jesus breaks through the locked doors of our lives to meet us there. He sees us, knows us, and invites us in return to see Him and know Him.

¹⁹ On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

²¹ Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” ²² And with that he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive anyone’s sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.”

²⁴ Now Thomas (also known as Didymus^[a]), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord!”

But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.”

²⁶ A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.”

²⁸ Thomas said to him, “My Lord and my God!”

²⁹ Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

³⁰ Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. ³¹ But these are written that you may believe^[b] that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

P: The Gospel of the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE FOR OUR YOUNGER DISCIPLES

Ben Black

Verse 1

See what a morning gloriously bright
With the dawning of hope in Jerusalem
Folded the grave-clothes tomb filled with light
As the angels announce Christ is risen
See God's salvation plan wrought in love
Borne in pain paid in sacrifice
Fulfilled in Christ the Man for He lives
Christ is risen from the dead

Verse 2

See Mary weeping where is He laid
As in sorrow she turns from the empty tomb
Hears a voice speaking calling her name
It's the Master the Lord raised to life again
The voice that spans the years
Speaking life stirring hope bringing peace to us
Will sound till He appears
For He lives Christ is risen from the dead

Verse 3

One with the Father Ancient of Days
Through the Spirit who clothes faith with certainty
Honour and blessing glory and praise
To the King crowned with pow'r and authority
And we are raised with Him
Death is dead love has won Christ has conquered
And we shall reign with Him
For He lives Christ is risen from the dead

MESSAGE FOR OUR OLDER DISCIPLES*Ben Black**Please Stand***† We Respond to God's Word †****AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

God is a person- three-in-one. He is the person of God the Father, the person of God the Son, and the person of the Holy Spirit. He has a mind and a will and has created us in His image to know the same. He is omnipotent, omnipresent, and omniscient. He is unmatched in all His glory and is with us, indwelling us. We are the temple of God, broken but restored through the Son- Jesus Christ, who died on the cross for our sins and rose to life on the third day. We are His children, and He is our Father. We are grafted into the Vine, and abiding in Jesus gives us renewed and full life. One day we will spend eternity with God, and we cannot wait for that day!

To the Triune Person of God- the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit- we give all honor and glory and praise! Amen.

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him. Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

THE OFFERING *“They Heard His Voice; They Saw His Face” by Monica Cantrell*

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

“Give Thanks”

Give thanks with a grateful heart

Give thanks to the Holy One

Give thanks because He’s given Jesus Christ, his Son

And now let the weak say, “I am strong,”

Let the poor say, “I am rich because of what the Lord has done for us”

Give thanks Give thanks

THE OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us join in our offering prayer together....

C: **God of extravagant love, fill our spirits with your love and place upon our hearts your call to serve all in the name of Christ. We ask that you dedicate our gifts and our lives to faithful service and ministry. In Jesus name. Amen.**

† We Celebrate the Lord’s Supper †

Here our Lord gives to us His own Body and Blood for the forgiveness of all our sins

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: It is indeed right . . . (just in my script) our duty, and our joy, always and everywhere to give you thanks and praise, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

(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.

P: We lift our eyes to you Lord, for in you and you alone do we find grace, love and truth. You meet Thomas in the moment of his doubting. We come before you now gathering for this holy meal, longing to experience your true presence with us once again we remember that on the night in which He was betrayed, took bread....

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

C: 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.

Please be seated

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 near the side aisle.

Please Stand

† We Depart in Peace †

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.*

COMMUNION HYMN

“Take My Life”

Words on Screen

Verse 1

Take my life and let it be consecrated
Lord to Thee
Take my moments and my days
Let them flow in ceaseless praise
Take my hands and let them move
At the impulse of Thy love
Take my feet and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee

Verse 2

Take my voice and let me sing
Always only for my King
Take my lips and let them be
Filled with messages from Thee
Take my silver and my gold
Not a mite would I withhold
Take my intellect and use
Ev'ry power as You choose

Chorus

Here am I all of me
Take my life it's all for Thee

Verse 3

Take my will and make it Thine
It shall be no longer mine
Take my heart it is Thine own
It shall be Thy royal throne
Take my love my Lord I pour
At Your feet its treasure store
Take myself and I will be
Ever only all for Thee

Chorus

Here am I all of me
Take my life it's all for Thee

THE BLESSING AFTER THE MEAL

P: Having experienced Christ's presence in this meal once again may this, the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you, keep you in his grace and assure you of the forgiveness of your sins.

C: **Amen**

THE BENEDICTION

P: Experience now the Holy Spirit breathed into your life, empowering you to serve not in fear but in peace. You are sent as Jesus was sent, so go boldly now to live together as the Body of Christ in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen!**

THE CLOSING HYMN

"Great is Thy Faithfulness"

Words on Screen

Chorus

Great is Thy faithfulness
Great is Thy faithfulness
Morning by morning
New mercies I see
All I have needed
Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness
Lord unto me

Verse 1

Great is Thy faithfulness
O God my Father
There is no shadow
Of turning with Thee
Thou changest not
Thy compassions they fail not
As Thou hast been
Thou forever wilt be

Verse 2

Summer and winter
And springtime and harvest
Sun moon and stars
In their courses above
Join with all nature
In manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness
Mercy and love

Verse 3

Pardon for sin
And a peace that endureth
Thy own dear presence
To cheer and to guide
Strength for today
And bright hope for tomorrow
Blessings all mine
With ten thousand beside

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 Ben Black for preaching today!

WORSHIP ASSIGNMENTS

This Week, April 24th	9:30 a.m. Ben Black	Next Week, May 1st	9:30 a.m. Pastor Martins Irbe
Assisting Minister	John Browder	Assisting Minister	Tracy Guffey
Lector	June Gries	Lector	Maggie Bode
Ushers	Ron Westerfeld Marsha Westerfeld	Ushers	Jim Jackson Deb Jackson
Greeters	Liz Clark Terry Clark	Greeters	Betty Perotti
Altar Guild	Diana Clements-Scott	Altar Guild	Diana Clements-Scott
Communion Assistant	Karen Bell	Communion Assistant	Karen Bell
Acolyte	Luke Soberalski	Acolyte	John Turner
Sound Technician	Dan Ivers	Sound Technician	Ronald Kissell
Video Technician	Geoff LaFlower	Video Technician	Neal Guffey
Bread Baker	June Gries	Bread Baker	Karen Bell
Children's Sermon	Ben Black	Children's Sermon	Tracy Guffey
Counters (Monday) Wk3	Maggie Bode Cindy Gregory	Counters (Monday) Wk1	Christian Gries Phil Miller