

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 4th Sunday of Easter

Live Abundant!

May 8, 2022

Meditation: : Jesus is the good shepherd. But a good shepherd is not expected to die for the sheep. Jesus is the only good shepherd that lays down his life, even when there are bandits on either side of him. The thief and the bandits will come, but Jesus brings hope, love and belonging in the midst of those powers that seek to rob us. Abundant life is not an absence of threats. It comes in the middle of the threats. God is calling to us to listen to the voice of Jesus and follow.



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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

May 8th, 2022 The 4th 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 to confess our sins, our failures, our wanderings. Lord, we confess that we sometimes get distracted from living our faith.

C: **Just as a sheep finding greener pasture we go astray,
We begin by wandering only a little ways away,
We focus on our own needs and desire,
We realize then how far we have wandered.
Forgive us for our wanderings and our self-centeredness. You know what those things are that pull us away from our faith in you. Hear us now as we bring them to You in our hearts...**

(silence)

P: The Great Shepherd seeks the lost sheep. Jesus promises that no one will take them from Him. Experience now his everlasting gift of forgiveness bought by his precious blood, forgiven now in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen**

Rejoice, the Lord Is King!

171

1 Re - joi - ce, the Lord is king! Your Lord and King a - dore;
 2 Our Sav - ior Je - sus reigns, The God of truth and love;
 3 His king - dom can - not fail; He rules o'er earth and heav'n;
 4 He sits at God's right hand Till all his foes sub - mit

Re - joi - ce, give thanks, and sing, And tri - umph ev - er - more:
 When he had purged our stains, He took his seat a - bove:
 The keys of death and hell Are to our Je - sus giv'n:
 And bow to his com - mand And fall be - neath his feet:

Refrain

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice; Re - joi - ce, a - gain I say, re - joi - ce!

*Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.
 Tune: William F. Fischer 1849-1936*

LAUS REGIS
 ♯ ♯ ♯ ♯ ♯ ♯ ♯ ♯

CALL TO WORSHIP

A: Who calls His sheep?

C: **The Great Shepherd!**

A: Who knows His voice?

C: **His sheep!**

A: We are the sheep, the sheep of the Great Shepherd.

C: **To Him we belong, we are the sheep of His pasture.**

OPENING PRAYER

A: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

A: Let us pray

C: **All: Lord, You are the Great Shepherd. We want to know Your voice as we should! Your voice calls us out of the lonely places where we are lost and back into the pasture where we belong. You tend to our needs, and love us when we fail. We ask for your mercy and grace today. Amen**

Please be seated

† We Hear God's Word †

FIRST READING

Acts 9:36-43 (pg. 944 in pew Bible)

A disciple named Tabitha became sick and died. While the women were mourning, Peter kneeled and prayed. Suddenly, Tabitha came alive!

³⁶ In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (in Greek her name is Dorcas); she was always doing good and helping the poor. ³⁷ About that time she became sick and died, and her body was washed and placed in an upstairs room. ³⁸ Lydda was near Joppa; so when the disciples heard that Peter was in Lydda, they sent two men to him and urged him, "Please come at once!" ³⁹ Peter went with them, and when he arrived he was taken upstairs to the room. All the widows stood around him, crying and showing him the robes and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was still with them. ⁴⁰ Peter sent them all out of the room; then he got down on his knees and prayed. Turning toward the dead woman, he said, "Tabitha, get up." She opened her eyes, and seeing Peter she sat up. ⁴¹ He took her by the hand and helped her to her feet. Then he called for the believers, especially the widows, and presented her to them alive. ⁴² This became known all over Joppa, and many people believed in the Lord. ⁴³ Peter stayed in Joppa for some time with a tanner named Simon.

L: The Word of the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

Revelation 7:9-17 (pg. 1066 in pew Bible)

So many people in history have been martyred for their faith, and many more will be in the coming days. John's vision describes the glorious scene in Heaven that these martyrs will experience.

⁹After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰And they cried out in a loud voice: "Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb." ¹¹All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²saying: "Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor and power and strength be to our God for ever and ever. Amen!" ¹³Then one of the elders asked me, "These in white robes—who are they, and where did they come from?" ¹⁴I answered, "Sir, you know." And he said, "These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵Therefore, "they are before the throne of God and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence. ¹⁶'Never again will they hunger; never again will they thirst. The sun will not beat down on them,' nor any scorching heat. ¹⁷For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd; 'he will lead them to springs of living water.' 'And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.'"

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 10:22-30

(pg. 922 in pew Bible)

The Jews asked Jesus if he truly was the Messiah during the Festival of Dedication. Jesus had already told them that He was, but their hearts and minds would not believe Him. Jesus knew they were not His sheep and would choose to reject Him. Not everyone will receive the Gospel of Jesus Christ although we are commanded to share it with the world.

²²Then came the Festival of Dedication^[a] at Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³and Jesus was in the temple courts walking in Solomon's Colonnade. ²⁴The Jews who were there gathered around him, saying, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." ²⁵Jesus answered, "I did tell you, but you do not believe. The works I do in my Father's name testify about me, ²⁶but you do not believe because you are not my sheep. ²⁷My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all^[b]; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. ³⁰I and the Father are one."

P: The Gospel of the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Please be seated

MESSAGE FOR OUR YOUNGER DISCIPLES

Pastor Doug Gast

Please stand

SERMON HYMN

Resurrection Hymn

Words on screen

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

Please be seated

MESSAGE FOR OUR OLDER DISCIPLES

Pastor Doug Gast

Please Stand

† **We Respond to God's Word** †

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

I believe in God the Father who created the heavens and earth and claims us as his own.

I believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God and one with God;
He came as the Good Shepherd,
Yet he became the slaughtered lamb,
He was ridiculed, mocked, and crucified as a ransom for my sin.
Jesus overcame the power of sin and death, rising from the dead,
ascending into heaven and will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the living presence of God in our hearts and in our world I believe the Spirit empowers us to believe and welcomes us into the flock. The Spirit leads us, guides us, and empowers us to live as the Body of Christ. 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.**

Please be seated

HEALING MOMENT

Terry Clark

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

“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: Heavenly Father, thank you that you can satisfy our every desire and need. Your word says that we should give honor to you with the first fruits of our wealth. Accept our tithes and offerings as a gift of worship to you. Multiply what we give for the effective growth of your kingdom. May Christ dwell in our hearts through faith so that we, being rooted and grounded in love, may have the strength to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge. May we be filled with all the fullness of God. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, 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, . . . 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:

C: 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 are all sinners saved by the grace of Christ, and we have a seat at the table with the Lord. He reminds us of His loving sacrifice. The body found in the bread; His blood in the wine. He is faithful and forgiving and invites us to be nourished. Holy Spirit, bless this Holy meal and change us once again to be more like our Great Shepherd and less like the world.

C: Thank You, Jesus, for Your deep mercy, everlasting grace, and more than enough love. Alleluia and amen.

WORDS OF JESUS

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

† We Celebrate the Lord's Supper †

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

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.

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

“Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us” LBW Hymn 481

Please stand

THE BLESSING AFTER THE MEAL

P: Having experienced Christ’s presence in the broken bread of 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.

ALL: Amen

THE BENEDICTION

P: Experience the loving presence of the good shepherd, welcoming, guiding and protecting your life. Know the certainty of God’s love and the truth of His promise. Go boldly now, empowered by the Holy Spirit to proclaim the good news and live together as the Body of Christ, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

ALL: Amen!

HOLY BAPTISM

[89

We Know That Christ Is Raised



1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
 2 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death.
 3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life.
 4 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows



Em - braced by death, he broke its fear - ful hold,
 Re - born, we share with him an Eas - ter life,
 The Spir - it's fis - sion shakes the Church of God.
 As Christ's new bod - y takes on flesh and blood.



And our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy.
 As liv - ing mem - bers of our Sav - ior Christ.
 Bap - tized, we live with God the Three in One.
 The u - ni - verse re - stored and



Hal - le - lu - jah!
 Hal - le - lu - jah!
 Hal - le - lu - jah!

whole will sing: Hal - le - lu - jah!

† We Depart in Peace †

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 Doug Gast for preaching today!

WORSHIP ASSIGNMENTS

Next Week, May 8th	9:30 a.m. Pastor Doug Gast	Next Week, May 15th	9:30 a.m. Joe Rudy
Assisting Minister	Joan Shaw	Assisting Minister	Christian Gries
Lector	John Shaw	Lector	Christian Gries
Ushers	Sheila Bryan John Browder	Ushers	Tracy Guffey Neal Guffey
Greeters	June Gries Ron Westerfeld	Greeters	Alan Berkshire Jeanette Berkshire
Altar Guild	Diana Clements-Scott	Altar Guild	Diana Clements-Scott
Communion Assistant	June Gries	Communion Assistant	Karen Bell
Acolyte	Darrel Turner	Acolyte	Luke Soberalski
Sound Technician	Dan Ivers	Sound Technician	Ronald Kissell
Video Technician	Geoff LaFlower	Video Technician	Neal Guffey
Bread Baker	Karen Bell	Bread Baker	Terri Gast
Children's Sermon	Pastor Doug Gast	Children's Sermon	Joe Rudy
Counters (Monday) Wk2	Maggie Bode Cindy Gregory	Counters (Monday) Wk3	Christian Gries Phil Miller

