

# 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.*

**ELEVENTH SUNDAY  
AFTER PENTECOST**  
Present Tense . . . Jesus  
Expands Our Imaginations

**August 21, 2022**



**Meditation:** Jesus is teaching throughout the land and responds to the question, "Lord, are only a few people going to be saved?" Jesus doesn't necessarily answer the question directly. His response is that many will try to enter the owner's house (the Kingdom of God) but will not be able to once the door has been closed. And the reason is that the owner did not know them, even though He had taught in their streets. They will be replaced at the feast in the Kingdom of God by people from the east, west, north and south.

**Today's chancel flowers are given in celebration of Tats Matsuoka's 94<sup>th</sup>  
Birthday.**



1741 S. State Street  
Greenfield, IN 46140  
Phone: 317-462-7340  
Email: [office@stjamesnalc.org](mailto: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.*

*Rev. Dr. Richard Blue Jr., 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 off all cell phones and electronic devices during the worship service.**
  - The service is streamed live and available online afterward on YouTube. Links can be found on the [St. James website \(www.stjamesnalc.org\)](http://www.stjamesnalc.org) 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. **If you require gluten free host, please let the servers know.**
- **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.

**PRELUDE  
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Joe Faith*

*Please Stand*

**† We Lift Our Hearts in Worship †**

**INVOCATION AND PRAYER**

P: In the name of the Father, the Son (+), and the Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19)

**C: Amen.**

**BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:**

P: Make us to know your ways, O Lord, and teach us your paths. Lead us in your truth and teach us, for you are the God of our salvation; for whom we wait. (Psalm 25:4-5)

C: Amen

P: If we say we have fellowship with God while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not live according to the truth; but if we walk in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us from all sin. (1 John 1:6-7)

*(Silence for self-reflection and examination.)*

P: Have mercy on us, O God, according to your steadfast love

C: According to your abundant mercy, blot out our transgressions. Wash us thoroughly from our iniquity and cleanse us from our sin. Create in us a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within us. Cast us not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation, and uphold us with a willing spirit. Amen (Psalm 51:1-2, 10-12)

P: Let it be known to you, that through Jesus Christ, the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you. (1 John 1:6-7) He commanded us to preach and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name. (Acts 10:42-43)

C: Amen

THE WORD

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Thy Strong Word

1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark-ness; At thy  
 2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark-ness, Dark as  
 3 Thy strong Word be - speaks us righ-teous; Bright with  
 4 From the cross thy wis - dom shin - ing Break - eth

speaking it was done. For cre - at - ed  
 night and deep as death, Broke the light of  
 thine own ho - li - ness, Glo - rious now, we  
 forth in con - qu'ring might; From the cross for -

light we thank thee, While thine or - dered sea - sons run.  
 thy sal - va - tion, Breathed thine own life - giv - ing breath.  
 press toward glo - ry, And our lives our hopes con - fess.  
 ev - er beam - eth All thy bright re - deem - ing light.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise to  
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise to  
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise to  
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise to

thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!  
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!  
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!  
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!

## CALL TO WORSHIP

(Based on Psalm 103, the Psalm of the Day)

**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.**

**L:** Let all that I am praise the LORD;

**C: with my whole heart, I will praise His holy name.**

**L:** Let all that I am praise the LORD;

**C: May I never forget the good things He does for me.**

**L:** He forgives all my sins

**C: And heals all my diseases**

**L:** He redeems me from death

**C: And crowns me with love and tender mercies.**

**L:** He fills my life with good things

**C: My youth is renewed like the eagle's!**

**L:** The LORD gives righteousness

**C: and justice to all who are treated unfairly.**

**L:** He revealed his character to Moses

**C: And His deeds to the people of Israel.**

**L:** The LORD is compassionate and merciful,

**C: Slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love.**

## OPENING PRAYER

L: Let us pray . . . . Heavenly Father, we praise You and we thank You for Your Son, Jesus Christ. We praise You and thank You Jesus for your sacrifice, your pain, your suffering on the cross. While we were yet sinners, You died for us. Jesus, You are the Way, the Truth and the Life. The only way to the Father is through You. Help us Lord to know You, to have relationship with You, to follow You, to bear our own cross for You. To live our lives for You. For You only. Help us Lord to enter through the narrow door and to stay on the narrow path. In Jesus Name, Amen!

**C: In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

*Please be seated*

### † We Hear God's Word †

[Read aloud both the introduction and Scripture]

**FIRST READING      Hebrews 12:4-24 (25-29)**    (pg 1041-1042 in pew bible)

*The writer of Hebrews speaks of the discipline of God and how it is for our own good. He exhorts us to live in peace and to be holy. He says God is a consuming fire with a voice that can shake the earth. But He is giving us a Kingdom that cannot be shaken.*

In your struggle against sin, you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. <sup>5</sup> And have you completely forgotten this word of encouragement that addresses you as a father addresses his son? It says, "My son, do not make light of the Lord's discipline, and do not lose heart when he rebukes you,<sup>6</sup> because the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and he chastens everyone he accepts as his son." <sup>7</sup> Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as his children. For what children are not disciplined their father? <sup>8</sup> If you are not disciplined—and everyone undergoes discipline—then you are not legitimate, not true sons and daughters at all. <sup>9</sup> Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we submit to the Father of spirits and live! <sup>10</sup> They disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, in order that we may share in his holiness. <sup>11</sup> No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it. <sup>12</sup> Therefore, strengthen your feeble arms and weak knees. <sup>13</sup> "Make level paths for your feet," so that the lame may not be disabled, but rather healed. <sup>14</sup> Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord. <sup>15</sup> See to it that no one falls short of the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many. <sup>16</sup> See that no one is sexually immoral, or is godless like Esau, who for a single meal sold his inheritance rights as

the oldest son. <sup>17</sup> Afterward, as you know, when he wanted to inherit this blessing, he was rejected. Even though he sought the blessing with tears, he could not change what he had done. <sup>18</sup> You have not come to a mountain that can be touched and that is burning with fire; to darkness, gloom and storm; <sup>19</sup> to a trumpet blast or to such a voice speaking words that those who heard it begged that no further word be spoken to them, <sup>20</sup> because they could not bear what was commanded: "If even an animal touches the mountain, it must be stoned to death." <sup>21</sup> The sight was so terrifying that Moses said, "I am trembling with fear."<sup>22</sup> But you have come to Mount Zion, to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem. You have come to thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly, <sup>23</sup> to the church of the firstborn, whose names are written in heaven. You have come to God, the Judge of all, to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, <sup>24</sup> to Jesus the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel. <sup>25</sup> See to it that you do not refuse him who speaks. If they did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, how much less will we, if we turn away from him who warns us from heaven? <sup>26</sup> At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, "Once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens." <sup>27</sup> The words "once more" indicate the removing of what can be shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain.<sup>28</sup> Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, <sup>29</sup> for our "God is a consuming fire."

*Please Stand*

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Turn your eyes upon Jesus, Look full in His wonderful face.  
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of His glory and grace.

## **THE HOLY GOSPEL**

**Luke 13:22-30** (pg 896-897 in the pew bible)

*Jesus is teaching in the towns and villages and responds to a question about how many people will be saved. His response is that once the owner of the house closes the door, no one is allowed in. And the reason is the owner does not know those who are knocking. But those he does know, including those from all over the world will feast in the Kingdom of God.*

Then Jesus went through the towns and villages, teaching as he made his way to Jerusalem. <sup>23</sup> Someone asked him, "Lord, are only a few people going to be saved?"

He said to them, <sup>24</sup> “Make every effort to enter through the narrow door, because many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able to. <sup>25</sup> Once the owner of the house gets up and closes the door, you will stand outside knocking and pleading, ‘Sir, open the door for us.’ “But he will answer, ‘I don’t know you or where you come from.’”<sup>26</sup> “Then you will say, ‘We ate and drank with you, and you taught in our streets.’”<sup>27</sup> “But he will reply, ‘I don’t know you or where you come from. Away from me, all you evildoers!’”<sup>28</sup> “There will be weeping there, and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, but you yourselves thrown out. <sup>29</sup> People will come from east and west and north and south and will take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God. <sup>30</sup> Indeed there are those who are last who will be first, and first who will be last.

## **MESSAGE FOR OUR YOUNGER DISCIPLES**

**John Browder**

*Please stand*

## THE MESSAGE HYMN

### Verse 1

There is an endless song  
Echoes in my soul  
I hear the music ring  
And though the storms may come  
I am holding on  
To the rock I cling

### Chorus

How can I keep from singing Your  
praise  
How can I ever say enough  
How amazing is Your love  
How can I keep from shouting Your  
name  
I know I am loved by the King  
And it makes my heart (want to sing)

### Verse 2

I will lift my eyes  
In the darkest night  
For I know my Savior lives  
And I will walk with You  
Knowing You'll see me through  
And sing the songs You give

### Chorus

How can I keep from singing Your  
praise  
How can I ever say enough  
How amazing is Your love  
How can I keep from shouting Your  
name  
I know I am loved by the King  
And it makes my heart (want to sing)

## *How Can I Keep From Singing*

### Bridge

I can sing in the troubled times  
Sing when I win  
I can sing when I lose my step  
And fall down again  
I can sing 'cause You pick me  
up  
Sing 'cause You're there  
I can sing 'cause You hear me  
Lord  
When I call to You in prayer  
I can sing with my last breath  
Sing for I know  
That I'll sing with the angels  
And the saints around the  
throne

### Chorus

How can I keep from singing  
Your praise  
How can I ever say enough  
How amazing is Your love  
How can I keep from shouting  
Your name  
I know I am loved by the King  
And it makes my heart

I am loved by the King  
And it makes my heart  
I am loved by the King  
And it makes my heart want to  
sing

*Please be seated*

## **MESSAGE FOR OUR OLDER DISCIPLES**

**Rev. Dr. Richard Blue Jr.**

*Please Stand*

### **† We Respond to God's Word †**

#### **THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

We believe in God, the creator and sustainer of the earth and all that exists. As we gaze into the heavens, we are reminded of God's creative power. We see God in the morning light, the beauty of the land, and realize that He has made life sustainers such as air, water, and food. God is worthy of our praise!

We believe in Jesus who came to this earth as a human being like us to show us through his life and message who God is. The new covenant brought about through his life, death, and resurrection, has made it possible for all believers to inherit the gift of eternal life. Jesus is worthy of our praise!

We believe in the Holy Spirit – a power source that is present throughout the world and within the lives of believers everywhere. The Holy Spirit is the great messenger of God's word and gives us knowledge and wisdom for living in accordance with God's will. The Spirit is worthy of our praise! Amen

#### **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

#### **THE 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, and we now offer our offerings and tithes.*

#### **THE OFFERING RESPONSE "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" LBW #564**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

## **THE OFFERING PRAYER**

Bountiful God, we come with our offerings in response to your love. With the new life in Christ, we give ourselves in service to others. With the energy bestowed by the Spirit, we seek to inflame all your people with a zeal for your way. Receive the work we do and the gifts we bring, that they may become a blessing in your sight. 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:** Loving and Merciful God, As a community of believers, we follow the command of Your son, our Lord Jesus Christ, when He instructed His disciples and us to partake of the elements of bread and wine. In this sacrament, we remember what Christ did for the world and us gathered here. In the bread, we remember the body of Christ sacrificed for us. In the wine, we remember the blood that was spilled for us. You loved us so much that You sent Your Son, Jesus Christ to die a brutal death so that we would be saved from our sins. As we celebrate what You have accomplished for our sake, may this be a foretaste of the great feast to come when we are gathered at the table together in heaven. We live now in a new covenant for the old has passed and the new has come in Jesus Christ. The kingdom we receive now cannot be shaken so let us give thanks at this meal and eat with joy in our hearts! And we join with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, as we praise Your name and join their unending hymn:

**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.**

## **THE 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.**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P: In Christ's presence there is fullness of joy. Come to the banquet.

*Please be seated*

## **LAMB OF GOD**

## **THE DISTRIBUTION**

## **COMMUNION HYMN**

**In Christ Alone**

# In Christ Alone

Words and Music by  
Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

♩=60

VERSE

A $\flat$

E $\flat$

A $\flat$

B $\flat$

E $\flat$ /G



1. In Christ a - lone my hope is found, He is my  
2. In Christ a - lone, who took on flesh, full - ness of  
3. There in the ground His bod - y lay, Light of the  
4. No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the

3

A $\flat$  E $\flat$ /G Fm<sup>7</sup> A $\flat$ /B $\flat$

E $\flat$

A $\flat$

E $\flat$

A $\flat$



light, my strength, — my song; This Cor - ner - stone, this sol - id  
God in help - less babel! This gift of love and right - eous -  
world by dark - ness slain; Then, burst - ing forth in glo - rious  
pow'r of Christ — in me; From life's first cry to fi - nal

6

B $\flat$

E $\flat$ /G

A $\flat$  E $\flat$ /G Fm<sup>7</sup> A $\flat$ /B $\flat$

E $\flat$

E $\flat$ /G



Ground, firm through the fierc - est drought — and storm. What heights of  
-ness, scorned by the ones He came — to save. Till on that  
Day, up from the grave He rose — a - gain! And as He  
breath, Je - sus com - mands my des - ti - ny. No pow'r of

9

A $\flat$

E $\flat$ /G

B $\flat$ <sup>sus</sup> B $\flat$

E $\flat$ /G

A $\flat$

Cm<sup>7</sup>

B $\flat$ <sup>sus</sup> B $\flat$

A $\flat$



love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when striv-ings cease. My Com - fort -  
cross as Je - sus died, the wrath of God was sat - is - fied. For ev - 'ry  
stands in vic - to - ry, sin's curse has lost its grip on me; For I am  
hell, no scheme of man, can ev - er pluck me from His hand; Till He re -

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In Christ Alone - 2

13      E $\flat$                       A $\flat$                       B $\flat$                       E $\flat$ /G                      A $\flat$  E $\flat$ /G Fm<sup>7</sup>      A $\flat$ /B $\flat$

-er,            my    All    in    All,                      here    in    the    love    of    Christ    —    I  
 sin            on    Him    was    laid;                      Here    in    the    death    of    Christ    —    I  
 His            and    He    is    mine,                      bought    with    the    pre - cious    blood    —    of  
 -turns            or    calls    me    home,                      here    in    the    pow'r    of    Christ    —    I'll

INSTRUMENTAL

16      E $\flat$                       B $\flat$ m<sup>7</sup>                      Fm<sup>7</sup>                      E $\flat$                       E $\flat$ <sup>sus</sup>                      E $\flat$

stand.  
 live.  
 Christ.  
 stand!

**THE BLESSING AFTER THE MEAL**

**P:** May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you for the journey ahead.

**C: Amen.**

**THE BENEDICTION**

**P:** As you have received Christ, go now and share Christ. As you have welcomed God and His love, go now and welcome others in love. As you have received the gift of grace, go now as grace-filled people, for the God of peace is with you, now and forever.

**ALL: Amen!**

† We Depart in Peace †

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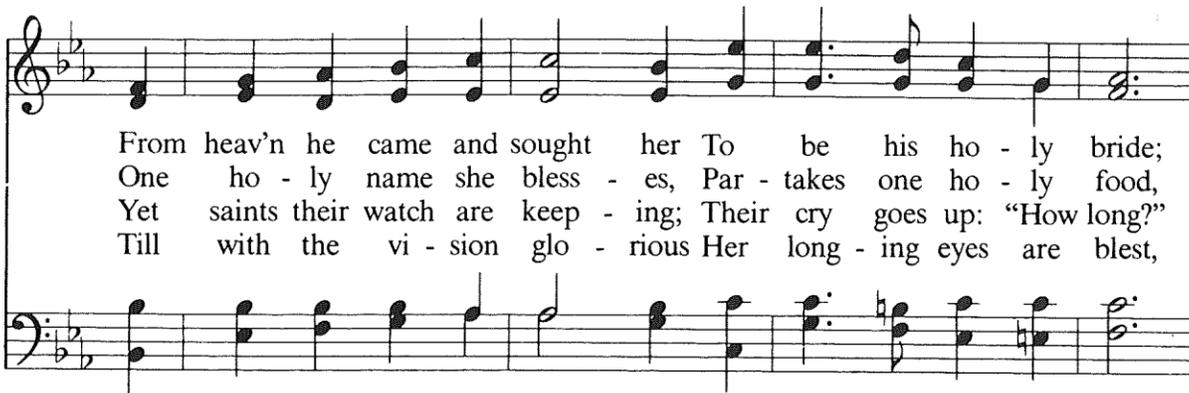
## The Church's One Foundation



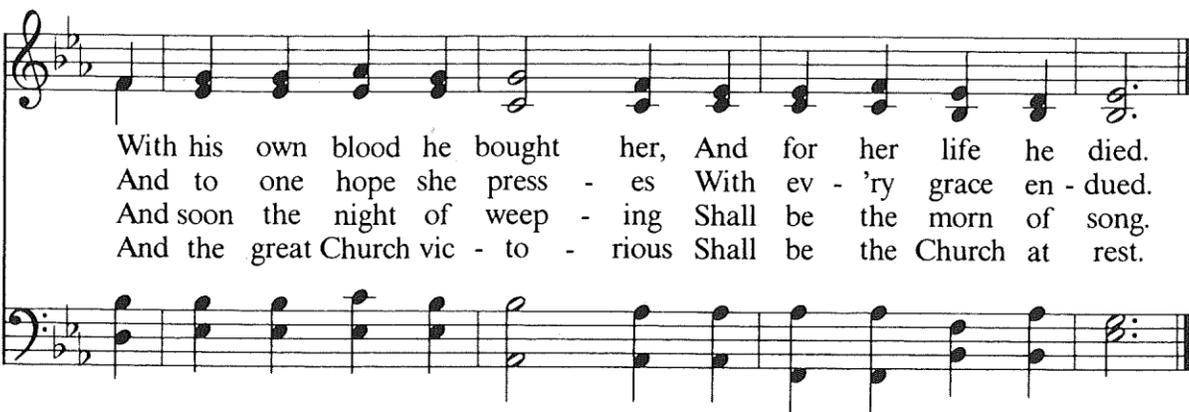
1 The Church's . . one foun - da - tion Is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;  
 2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, Yet one o'er all the earth;  
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der This world sees her op-pressed,  
 4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion And tu - mult of her war,



She is his new cre - a - tion By wa - ter and the Word.  
 Her char - ter of sal - va - tion: One Lord, one faith, one birth.  
 By schisms . . rent a - sun - der, By her - e - sies dis-tressed,  
 She waits the con - sum - ma - tion Of peace for - ev - er - more;



From heav'n he came and sought her To be his ho - ly bride;  
 One ho - ly name she bless - es, Par - takes one ho - ly food,  
 Yet saints their watch are keep - ing; Their cry goes up: "How long?"  
 Till with the vi - sion glo - rious Her long - ing eyes are blest,



With his own blood he bought her, And for her life he died.  
 And to one hope she press - es With ev - 'ry grace en - dued.  
 And soon the night of weep - ing Shall be the morn of song.  
 And the great Church vic - to - rious Shall be the Church at rest.

# THE DISMISSAL

## Worship Volunteers

<b>This Week, August 21st</b>	9:30 am Pastor Richard Blue	<b>Next Week, Aug 28th</b>	9:30 a.m. Pastor Richard Blue
Assisting Minister	Christian Gries	Assisting Minister	Debbie Mowrey
Lector	Christian Gries	Lector	Dawn Hahm
Ushers	Tracy Guffey Neal Guffey	Ushers	Linda Hess Wanda Stephens-Wooten
Greeters	Liz Clark Terry Clark	Greeters	Nancy Fisher Tom Fisher
Altar Guild	Diana Clements-Scott	Altar Guild	Diana Clements-Scott
Communion Assistant	June Gries	Communion Assistant	Karen Bell
Acolyte	Andrew Turner	Acolyte	Luke Stearns
Sound Technician	Ronald Kissell	Sound Technician	Dan Ivers
Video Technician	Geoff LaFlower	Video Technician	Geoff LaFlower
Bread Baker	Janet Farrow	Bread Baker	Karen Bell
Children's Sermon	John Browder	Children's Sermon	
Counters (Monday)	Christian Gries Phil Miller	Counters (Monday)	Christian Gries Phil Miller