

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.*

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

August 28, 2022



Meditation: When we have a gathering of any sort, we spend some time deciding who to invite. And we always invite those we feel comfortable with, or those to whom we feel some obligation. That's our A List. There are others we choose not to invite, for myriad reasons, the primary being there are others we'd rather invite. God's A List looks like a B List, or a D List. He invites those who couldn't possibly repay His invitation. He invites those who are not in any way entitled to His invitation. He invites us, sinful as we might be. "Come," He says, "I want relationship with you." There is a word for His invitation. It's called grace. And it's amazing. presence of Jesus through the Holy Spirit

Today's chancel flowers are given for the Glory of God.



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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.

*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 reflection and self-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

OPENING HYMN

"Lead On O King Eternal" LBW 495 C3



1 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal! The day of march has come;
 2 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, Till sin's fierce war shall cease,
 3 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal: We fol - low, not with fears,



Hence-forth in fields of con - quest Your tents will be our home.
 And ho - li - ness shall whis - per The sweet a - men of peace;
 For glad - ness breaks like morn - ing Wher - e'er your face ap - pears.



Through days of prep - a - ra - tion Your grace has made us strong;
 For not with swordsloud clash - ing, Nor roll of stir - ring drums,
 Your cross is lift - ed o'er us; We jour - ney in its light;



And now, O King e - ter - nal, We lift our bat - tle song.
 But deeds of love and mer - cy The heav'n - ly king - dom comes.
 The crown a - waits the con - quest; Lead on, O God of might!



CALL TO WORSHIP

(Based on Psalm 112, 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: Praise the LORD!

C: How joyful are those who fear the LORD and delight in obeying His commands.

L: Their children will be successful everywhere;

C: An entire generation of Godly people will be blessed.

L: They themselves will be wealthy,

C: And their good deeds will last forever.

L: Light shines in the darkness for the godly.

C: They are generous, compassionate, and righteous.

L: Good comes to those who lend money generously

C: And conduct their business fairly.

L: Such people will not be overcome by evil.

C: Those who are righteous will be long remembered.

L: They do not fear bad news;

C: They confidently trust the LORD to care for them.

L: They are confident and fearless

C: And can face their foes triumphantly.

L: They share freely and give generously to those in need.

C: They will have influence and honor. Their good deeds will be remembered forever.

OPENING PRAYER

L: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

L: Let us pray. . . . Lord of all power and might, author and giver of all good things, place in our hearts a true love for You. Increase our faith, nourish us with Your goodness, and bring forth from us the fruit of humility, that You, and You alone, might be exalted in us. To You be all glory and honor, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Please be seated

† We Hear God's Word †

[Read aloud both the introduction and Scripture]

FIRST READING **Hebrews 13:1-17** (pg 1042 in pew bible)

God is pleased with the sacrifice of a surrendered life.

Hebrews 13:1-17

The writer of Hebrews in the conclusion of his letter, encourages the readers to love one another and to remember those who are mistreated and suffering, to be content with what they have. They are to remember those who have gone before them and imitate their faith. But they are to especially remember the suffering of Jesus, who shed his own blood for them.

Keep on loving one another as brothers and sisters.² Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it.³ Continue to remember those in prison as if you were together with them in prison, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering.⁴ Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral.⁵ Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you."⁶ So we say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?"⁷ Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith.⁸ Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.⁹ Do not be carried away by all kinds of strange teachings. It is good for our hearts to be strengthened by grace, not by eating ceremonial foods, which is of no benefit to those who do so.¹⁰ We have an altar from which those who minister at the tabernacle have no right to eat.¹¹ The high priest carries the blood of animals into the Most Holy Place as a sin offering, but the bodies are burned outside the camp.¹² And so Jesus also suffered outside the city gate to make the people holy through

his own blood. ¹³ Let us, then, go to him outside the camp, bearing the disgrace he bore. ¹⁴ For here we do not have an enduring city, but we are looking for the city that is to come. ¹⁵ Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. ¹⁶ And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased. ¹⁷ Have confidence in your leaders and submit to their authority, because they keep watch over you as those who must give an account. Do this so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no benefit to you.

P: The Word of God for the people of God.

C: Thanks be to God.

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 14:1-14 (pg 897 in pew bible)

God's grace redeems us, even though we are not worthy.

Luke 14:1-14

Jesus is dining at a Pharisee's house. They are watching him closely and not really responding to his questions on the law, things like healing on the Sabbath, which He then promptly does. And as Jesus notices how they are seated at the table, picking seats of honor, He tells them a parable. Jesus tells them taking the lower place is better, having an attitude of being humble instead of exalted is a better way, inviting the poor and lame, instead of the rich to dinners, with no repayment expected, with an eternal, vice earthly, reward awaiting instead.

One Sabbath, when Jesus went to eat in the house of a prominent Pharisee, he was being carefully watched. ² There in front of him was a man suffering from abnormal swelling of his body. ³ Jesus asked the Pharisees and experts in the law, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath or not?" ⁴ But they remained silent. So taking hold of the man, he healed him and sent him on his way. ⁵ Then he asked them, "If one of you has a child or an ox that falls into a well on the Sabbath day, will you not immediately pull it out?" ⁶ And they had nothing to say. ⁷ When he noticed how the guests picked the places of honor at the table, he told them this parable: ⁸ "When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take the place of honor, for a person more distinguished than you may have been invited. ⁹ If so, the host who invited both of you will come and say to you, 'Give this person your seat.' Then, humiliated, you will have to take the least important place. ¹⁰ But when you are invited, take the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he will

say to you, 'Friend, move up to a better place.' Then you will be honored in the presence of all the other guests. ¹¹ For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." ¹² Then Jesus said to his host, "When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or sisters, your relatives, or your rich neighbors; if you do, they may invite you back and so you will be repaid. ¹³ But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, ¹⁴ and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

P: The Word of God for the people of God.

C: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE FOR OUR YOUNGER DISCIPLES

Please stand

THE MESSAGE HYMN

Come, Now Is the Time to Worship

CCLI Song # 2430948 Brian Doerksen

Chorus

Come now is the time to worship
Come now is the time to give your heart
Come just as you are to worship
Come just as you are before your God
Come

Verse 1

One day every tongue
Will confess You are God
One day every knee will bow
Still the greatest treasure remains
For those who gladly choose You now

Verse 2

Willingly we choose to surrender our lives
Willingly our knees will bow
With all our heart soul mind and strength
We gladly choose You now

Ending

Come come just as you are come come

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

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, he will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Please be seated

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.

Please Stand

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: It is truly right, and indeed our delight, at all times and in all places, to give praise and thanks to You, Almighty Father, through Jesus Christ, your Son. He humbled Himself to Your will, and You exalted Him. Give to us His Spirit, that we may humble ourselves before You, and receive from You the place Your grace offers. Here we celebrate Your grace, as we receive the gift of the body and blood of Your Son, Jesus Christ, in these forms of bread and wine. 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

Above All

CCLI song #2672885 Integrity's Hosanna! Music/LenSongs Publishing

Above all powers, above all kings, above all nature and all created things;
Above all wisdom and all the ways of man,
You were here before the world began.

Above all kingdoms, above all thrones,
above all wonders the world has ever known;

Above all wealth and treasures of the earth,
there's no way to measure what You're worth.

Crucified, laid behind a stone;
You lived to die, rejected and alone;
Like a rose, trampled on the ground,
You took the fall, and thought of me, above all.

THE BLESSING AFTER THE MEAL

P: May the true body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, make us strong,
filling us with His peace.

**C: We have come as guests invited to His banquet, not because we are worthy,
but because He is love. Amen.**

THE BENEDICTION

P: Go now, in the exalting love of God the Father, in the redeeming love of Jesus
Christ, to live humbly in the Spirit, sharing the love of God with all those around.

C: Amen.

ALL: Amen!

† We Depart in Peace †

THE CLOSING HYMN
638

"Blessed Assurance" ELW 638 D3

Blessed Assurance



1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,



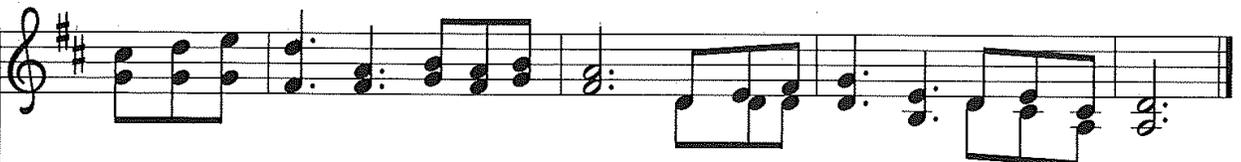
Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood.
an-gels de-scend-ing bring from a-bove ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love.
watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.



Refrain



This is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long:



this is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.



THE DISMISSAL

Worship Volunteers

This Week, August 28th	9:30 am Pastor Richard Blue	Next Week, Sept 4	9:30 a.m. Pastor Richard Blue
Assisting Minister	Debbie Mowrey	Assisting Minister	Christian Gries
Lector	Dawn Hahm	Lector	Christian Gries
Ushers	Linda Hess Wanda Stephens-Wooten	Ushers	Tracy Guffey Neal Guffey
Greeters	Nancy Fisher Tom Fisher	Greeters	Liz Clark Terry Clark
Altar Guild	Diana Clements-Scott	Altar Guild	Diana Clements-Scott
Communion Assistant	Karen Bell	Communion Assistant	June Gries
Acolyte	Luke Stearns	Acolyte	Darrel Turner
Sound Technician	Dan Ivers	Sound Technician	Ronald Kissell
Video Technician	Geoff LaFlower	Video Technician	Neal Guffey
Bread Baker	Karen Bell	Bread Baker	Karen Bell
Children's Sermon	Alison LaFlower	Children's Sermon	
Counters (Monday)	Christian Gries Phil Miller	Counters (Monday)	Christian Gries Phil Miller