

# 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.*

## THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

What Disciples Do

September 11, 2022



**Meditation:** Loving God, remind us that we are here because You invite us, seek us, come to us, and embrace us. We are here because as a shepherd seeks a lost sheep, You seek us when we are lost. As a woman searches for a lost coin, You rejoice when we are found. Teach us to give thanks.

**Today's chancel flowers are given by Wanda Stephens-Wooten**



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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: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen**

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love You and worthily magnify Your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

P: Most merciful God,

**C: We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against You in thought, word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your holy name. Amen**

P: Almighty God, in His mercy, has given His son to die for us and, for His sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore declare to You the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen**

FESTIVALS, COMMEMORATIONS

At the Name of Jesus

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1 At the name of Je - sus ev - 'ry knee shall bow,  
 2 At his voice cre - a - tion sprang at once to sight,  
 3 Hum - bled for a sea - son, to re - ceive a name  
 4 In your hearts en - throne him; there let him sub - due  
 5 Chris - tians, this Lord Je - sus shall re - turn a - gain



ev - 'ry tongue con - fess him king of glo - ry now.  
 all the an - gel fac - es, all the hosts of light,  
 from the lips of sin - ners un - to whom he came,  
 all that is not ho - ly, all that is not true.  
 on the clouds of glo - ry, with his an - gel train;



It is God's good plea - sure we should call him Lord,  
 thrones and dom - i - na - tions, stars up - on their way,  
 faith - ful - ly he bore it spot - less to the last;  
 Crown him as your cap - tain in temp - ta - tion's hour;  
 for all wreaths of em - pire meet up - on his brow,



who from the be - gin - ning was the might - y Word.  
 all the heav'n - ly or - ders in their great ar - ray.  
 brought it back vic - to - rious when from death he passed.  
 let his will en - fold you in its light and pow'r.  
 and our hearts con - fess him king of glo - ry now.

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (Psalm 14, 1 Timothy 1)

P: Fools say in their hearts, "There is no God."

**C: We proclaim that God's presence is real and alive and thriving!**

L: Evildoers declare through their actions, "We go through life alone."

**C: But we see God's grace, faithfulness, and steadfast love in our lives and in the world around us.**

L: Praise be to God!

**OPENING PRAYER**

L: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

L: Loving God, remind us that we are here because You invite us, seek us, come to us, and embrace us. We are here because as a shepherd seeks a lost sheep, You seek us when we are lost. As a woman searches for a lost coin, You rejoice when we are found. Teach us to give thanks. Amen.

**C: Amen.**

**Opening Prayer**

P: God of abundant grace, may Your Holy Spirit be with us now

As we worship You this day.

Open our eyes to truly see one another, that we might discover Your Presence in the smile of a neighbor.

Open our ears to the needs of the world,

That we might hear Your wisdom in the words spoken around us.

And open our hearts to Your grace and love, that we might find guidance

And strength for the journey, for ourselves and for one another. Amen.

C: Amen.

*Please be seated*

**† We Hear God's Word †**

[Read aloud both the introduction and Scripture]

**FIRST READING****Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28 (page 651 in pew bible)**

At that time it will be said to this people and to Jerusalem: A hot wind comes from me out of the bare heights in the desert toward my poor people, not to winnow or cleanse-- a wind too strong for that. Now it is I who speak in judgment against them. "For my people are foolish, they do not know me; they are stupid children, they have no understanding. They are skilled in doing evil, but do not know how to do good." I looked on the earth, and lo, it was waste and void; and to the heavens, and they had no light. I looked on the mountains, and lo, they were quaking, and all the hills moved to and fro. I looked, and lo, there was no one at all, and all the birds of the air had fled. I looked, and lo, the fruitful land was a desert, and all its cities were laid in ruins before the LORD, before his fierce anger. For thus says the LORD: The whole land shall be a desolation; yet I will not make a full end. Because of this the earth shall mourn, and the heavens above grow black; for I have spoken, I have purposed; I have not relented, nor will I turn back.

**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 15: 1-10 (pg 898 in pew bible)

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." So, he told them this parable: "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance. "Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

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

C: Thanks be to God.

**MESSAGE FOR OUR YOUNGER DISCIPLES**

Joe Faith

*Please stand*

**THE MESSAGE HYMN**

**Verse 1**

Before I spoke a word You were singing over me  
You have been so so good to me  
Before I took a breath You breathed Your life in me  
You have been so so kind to me

**Chorus**

O the overwhelming never-ending reckless  
Love of God  
O it chases me down fights 'til I'm found  
Leaves the ninety-nine  
I couldn't earn it I don't deserve it  
Still You give Yourself away  
O the overwhelming never-ending reckless  
Love of God

**Verse 2**

When I was Your foe still Your love fought for me  
You have been so so good to me  
When I felt no worth You paid it all for me  
You have been so so kind to me

*Please be seated*

**MESSAGE FOR OUR OLDER DISCIPLES**

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

*Please Stand*

**“Reckless Love”**

**Chorus**

O the overwhelming never-ending  
reckless  
Love of God  
O it chases me down fights 'til I'm found  
Leaves the ninety-nine  
I couldn't earn it I don't deserve it  
Still You give Yourself away  
O the overwhelming never-ending  
reckless  
Love of God

**Bridge (3X)**

There's no shadow You won't light up  
Mountain You won't climb up  
Coming after me  
There's no wall You won't kick down  
Lie You won't tear down  
Coming after me

**Chorus (2X)**

O the overwhelming never-ending  
reckless  
Love of God  
O it chases me down fights 'til I'm found  
Leaves the ninety-nine  
I couldn't earn it I don't deserve it  
Still You give Yourself away  
O the overwhelming never-ending  
reckless  
Love of God

## † We Respond to God's Word †

### THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

### The Apostles Creed

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 power of the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary. He 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 and 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

### *Installation of Sunday School Education Teachers*

### 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

**"Great is Thy Faithfulness"**

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."

## **THE OFFERING PRAYER**

Gracious and loving God, we thank You for these gifts and ask that they be used to help the needy in our community and throughout the world.

As we offer You these gifts, we offer ourselves as well, that together we might transform the world with Your grace and love. 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: The bread is ready, the cup is filled, the table is set.  
Let all who are hungry for the love of God, come and be fed.  
Let all who are thirsty for new life, come and share the cup.  
Let all who want to follow Jesus, come and join the feast.

*Please be seated*

## **LAMB OF GOD**

## **THE DISTRIBUTION**

## **COMMUNION HYMN**

## **“At The Cross” (Butler)**

I know a place a wonderful place  
Where accused and condemned  
Find mercy and grace  
Where the wrongs we have done  
And the wrongs done to us  
Were nailed there with Him  
There on the cross

I know a place a wonderful place  
Where accused and condemned  
Find mercy and grace  
Where the wrongs we have done  
And the wrongs done to us  
Were nailed there with Him  
There on the cross

### **Chorus 1**

**(Men) At the cross**  
**(Women) at the cross**  
**(ALL) He died for our sin**  
**(Men) At the cross**  
**(Women) at the cross**  
**(ALL) He gave us life again**

## **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.

I know a place a wonderful place  
Where accused and condemned  
Find mercy and grace  
Where the wrongs we have done  
And the wrongs done to us  
Were nailed there with You  
There on the cross

### **Chorus 2**

**(Men) At the cross**  
**(Women) at the cross**  
**(ALL) You died for our sin**  
**(Men) At the cross**  
**(Women) at the cross**  
**(ALL) You gave us life again**

**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 peace, and in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, be found by the great Shepherd and in His name seek out that which is lost.

**C: Amen.**

† We Depart in Peace †

## THE CLOSING HYMN

“I Love Your Kingdom Lord” LBW 368 F4

### I Love Your Kingdom, Lord



1 I love your king - dom, Lord, the place of your a - bode;  
2 I love your church, O God! Its walls be - fore you stand,  
3 Be - yond my high - est joy I prize its heav'n - ly ways,  
4 Sure as your truth shall last, to Zi - on shall be giv'n



the church our blest Re - deem - er saved with his own pre - cious blood.  
dear as the ap - ple of your eye and grav - en on your hand.  
its sweet com - mu - nion, sol - emn vows, its hymns of love and praise.  
the bright - est glo - ries earth can yield, and bright - er bliss of heav'n.

Text: Timothy Dwight, 1752–1817, alt.  
Music: ST. THOMAS. Aaron Williams, 1731–1776

## THE DISMISSAL

## Worship Volunteers

<b>This Week, September 11</b>	9:30 am Pastor Richard Blue	<b>Next Week, Sept 18</b>	9:30 a.m. Pastor Richard Blue
Assisting Minister	Joan Shaw	Assisting Minister	Christian Gries
Lector	John Shaw	Lector	Christian Gries
Ushers	Sheila Bryan John Browder	Ushers	Tom Fisher Nancy Fisher
Greeters	June Gries Ron Westerfeld	Greeters	John Shaw Joan Shaw
Altar Guild	Diana Clements-Scott	Altar Guild	Diana Clements-Scott
Communion Assistant	June Gries	Communion Assistant	Karen Bell
Acolyte	Andrew Turner	Acolyte	Eli Stearns
Sound Technician	Dan Ivers	Sound Technician	Ronald Kissell
Video Technician	Geoff LaFlower	Video Technician	Geoff LaFlower
Bread Baker	Karen Bell	Bread Baker	Kenya Ostermeier
Children's Sermon	Joe Faith	Children's Sermon	Alison LaFlower
Counters (Monday)	Maggie Bode Carol Hudson	Counters (Monday)	Christian Gries Phil Miller