

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 4, 2022



Meditation: God knows our intentions and our hopes, reshaping us when we do what is wrong, and responding to our repentance with mercy. We count the cost of our actions, but Jesus calls us to let go of our attachments and follow him in a life of love and care for others. This mystery is beyond our understanding.

Today's chancel flowers are given by Joe & Carol Hudson in celebration of Erin
and Abigails birthdays
And also by Alison LaFlower in honor of Geoff's 54th Birthday



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Greenfield, IN 46140
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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

We Praise You, O God

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1 We praise you, O God, our re - deem - er, cre - a - tor;
 2 We wor - ship you, God of our fa - thers and mo - thers;
 3 With voic - es u - nit - ed our prais - es we of - fer

in grate - ful de - vo - tion our trib - ute we bring.
 through tri - al and tem - pest our guide you have been.
 and glad - ly our songs of thanks - giv - ing we raise.

We lay it be - fore you; we kneel and a - dore you;
 When per - ils o'er - take us, you will not for - sake us,
 With you, Lord, be - side us, your strong arm will guide us.

we bless your ho - ly name; glad prais - es we sing.
 and with your help, O Lord, our strug - gles we win.
 To you, our great re - deem - er, for - ev - er be praise!

CALL TO WORSHIP

(Based on Psalm 112, the Psalm of the Day)

Call to Worship (Jeremiah 18, Psalm 139)

P: We come with praise for the wonderful works of God.

C: Even before we speak, God knows us completely.

L: The Holy One knows us and sustains us, even in our moments of confusion and doubt.

C: Who can count the thoughts of God? They are more than all the sands of the desert.

L: Like clay in the hand of the potter, we are shaped into vessels of divine will.

C: We come with praise for the wonderful works of God.

OPENING PRAYER

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Boundless Shaper of people and nations, you are beyond our knowing, yet closer to us than our every breath. You are before us and behind us, surrounding us with Your love, and fashioning all of creation in the secret depths of Your heart. With every thought, with every song, and with every prayer, turn these fragile, earthen vessels of our lives, into the Spirit-filled body of Christ. Amen.

C: Amen.

Please be seated

† We Hear God's Word †

[Read aloud both the introduction and Scripture]

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 18:1-11 (pg 665+1 in pew bible)

God the Potter

18 Jeremiah received the LORD's word: ² Go down to the potter's house, and I'll give you instructions about what to do there. ³ So I went down to the potter's house; he was working on the potter's wheel. ⁴ But the piece he was making was flawed while still in his hands, so the potter started on another, as seemed best to him. ⁵ Then the LORD's word came to me: ⁶ House of Israel, can't I deal with you like this potter, declares the LORD? Like clay in the potter's hand, so are you in mine, house of Israel! ⁷ At any time I may announce that I will dig up, pull down, and destroy a

nation or kingdom; ⁸ but if that nation I warned turns from its evil, then I'll relent and not carry out the harm I intended for it. ⁹ At the same time, I may announce that I will build and plant a nation or kingdom; ¹⁰ but if that nation displeases and disobeys me, then I'll relent and not carry out the good I intended for it. ¹¹ Now say to the people of Judah and those living in Jerusalem: This is what the LORD says: I am a potter preparing a disaster for you; I'm working out a plan against you. So each one of you, turn from your evil ways; reform your ways and your actions.

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 14:25-33 (pg 898 in pew bible)

Discipleship's Demands

²⁵ Large crowds were traveling with Jesus. Turning to them, he said, ²⁶ "Whoever comes to me and doesn't hate father and mother, spouse and children, and brothers and sisters—yes, even one's own life—cannot be my disciple. ²⁷ Whoever doesn't carry their own cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.

²⁸ "If one of you wanted to build a tower, wouldn't you first sit down and calculate the cost, to determine whether you have enough money to complete it? ²⁹ Otherwise, when you have laid the foundation but couldn't finish the tower, all who see it will begin to belittle you. ³⁰ They will say, 'Here's the person who began construction and couldn't complete it!' ³¹ Or what king would go to war against another king without first sitting down to consider whether his ten thousand soldiers could go up against the twenty thousand coming against him? ³² And if he didn't think he could win, he would send a representative to discuss terms of peace while his enemy was still a long way off. ³³ In the same way, none of you who are unwilling to give up all of your possessions can be my disciple.

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

C: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE FOR OUR YOUNGER DISCIPLES

Tracy Guffey

Please stand

THE MESSAGE HYMN

Verse 1

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
But wholly trust in Jesus' Name
(REPEAT)

Chorus

Christ alone cornerstone
Weak made strong in the Saviour's love
Through the storm He is Lord
Lord of all

Verse 2

When darkness seems to hide His face
I rest on His unchanging grace
In every high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil
My anchor holds within the veil

Chorus

Christ alone cornerstone
Weak made strong in the Saviour's love
Through the storm He is Lord
Lord of all

Please be seated

MESSAGE FOR OUR OLDER DISCIPLES

Rev. Dr. Richard Blue Jr.

Please Stand

“Cornerstone”

Chorus

Christ alone cornerstone
Weak made strong in the Saviour's
love
Through the storm He is Lord
Lord of all

Verse 3

When He shall come with trumpet
sound
Oh may I then in Him be found
Dressed in His righteousness alone
Faultless stand before the throne

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

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

With these gifts, we lay down all that we have
and all that we are and take up the cross with Jesus. 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: 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

“Grace Alone”

Verse 1

Ev'ry promise we can make
Ev'ry prayer and step of faith
Ev'ry diff'rence we will make
Is only by His grace
Ev'ry mountain we will climb
Ev'ry ray of hope we shine
Ev'ry blessing left behind
Is only by His grace

Chorus

Grace alone which God supplies
Strength unknown He will provide
Christ in us our Cornerstone
We will go forth in grace alone

Verse 2

Ev'ry soul we long to reach
Ev'ry heart we hope to teach
Ev'rywhere we share His peace
Is only by His grace
Ev'ry loving word we say
Ev'ry tear we wipe away
Ev'ry sorrow turned to praise
Is only by His grace

Chorus

Grace alone which God supplies
Strength unknown He will provide
Christ in us our Cornerstone
We will go forth in grace alone

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: With empty hands and open hearts, go forth to follow Jesus in love and service to the world.

C: Amen.

ALL: Amen!

† We Depart in Peace †

COMMITMENT, DISCIPLESHIP

Lead On, O King Eternal!

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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 swords loud 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!

Text: Ernest W. Shurtleff, 1862-1917
 Music: Henry T. Smart, 1813-1879

LANCASHIRE
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Worship Volunteers

This Week, September 4	9:30 am Pastor Richard Blue	Next Week, Sept 11	9:30 a.m. Pastor Richard Blue
Assisting Minister	Christian Gries	Assisting Minister	Joan Shaw
Lector	Christin Gries	Lector	John Shaw
Ushers	Tracy Guffey Neal Guffey	Ushers	Sheila Bryan John Browder
Greeters	Liz Clark Terry Clark	Greeters	June Gries Ron Westerfeld
Altar Guild	Diana Clements-Scott	Altar Guild	Diana Clements-Scott
Communion Assistant	June Gries	Communion Assistant	June Gries
Acolyte	Darrel Turner	Acolyte	Andrew Turner
Sound Technician	Ronald Kissell	Sound Technician	Dan Ivers
Video Technician	Neal Guffey	Video Technician	Geoff LaFlower
Bread Baker	Karen Bell	Bread Baker	Karen Bell
Children's Sermon	Tracy Guffey	Children's Sermon	Joe Faith
Counters (Monday)	Christian Gries Phil Miller	Counters (Monday)	Maggie Bode Carol Hudson