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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*

### 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**

*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.**

P: Men and women, old and young, see God's visions, dream God's dreams.  
Young and old, women and men, feel the Spirit fall like rain.  
People everywhere on earth, join creation, shout for joy:  
Praise is due You, O God, for all that You do,  
for all that you have done, for all that You promise to do.

**BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:**

**C: Creator God, we confess this day to engaging in habits  
that diminish the bounty of Your creation.  
Not satisfied with the goodness of Your holy temple,  
Your seas and mountains, Your rain and soil,  
we have fashioned a system of sustenance that seems good to us,  
but cannot be sustained. Be merciful to us, for we have sinned.  
Answer us with awesome deeds of deliverance, O Hope of the Earth.  
Give us vision and a prophetic spirit. Renew our vocation,  
as stewards of Your creation. Amen.**

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE:**

P: Do not lose heart. Those who humbly admit their sins find favor with God.  
For God answers prayer and forgives transgression.  
Believe this good news: We are forgiven and freed to newness of life.

**C: Amen**

OPENING HYMN

“Blessed Assurance” ELW 638

638

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.

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Praise is due to You, O God, O You who answer prayer.

**C: Happy are those who live in Your courts—  
those who are satisfied with the goodness  
of Your house and Your holy temple.**

L: You are the hope of all things, Holy One,

from the ends of the earth to the farthest seas.

**C: You make the gateways of the evening  
and the morning shout for joy.**

L: Rejoice in God, O people, and be glad.

**C: Let us shout and sing together for joy.**

### **OPENING PRAYER**

P: God of all generations, as we approach Reformation Sunday,  
we remember mothers and fathers in the faith who took bold steps in new  
directions to re-form your church. Pour out Your spirit upon us,  
that we too may dream dreams, see visions, and view the whole created  
order as Your bountiful temple.

With responsibility and joy, we pledge ourselves to renew this temple,  
in Jesus' name. Amen.

*Please be seated*

### **† We Hear God's Word †**

#### **FIRST READING**

**Joel 2:23-32**, page 782-783 in pew bible

<sup>23</sup> Be glad, people of Zion,  
rejoice in the LORD your God,  
for he has given you the autumn rains  
because he is faithful.

He sends you abundant showers,  
both autumn and spring rains, as before.

<sup>24</sup> The threshing floors will be filled with grain;  
the vats will overflow with new wine and oil.

<sup>25</sup> "I will repay you for the years the locusts have eaten—  
the great locust and the young locust,  
the other locusts and the locust swarm<sup>[a]</sup>—  
my great army that I sent among you.

<sup>26</sup> You will have plenty to eat, until you are full,  
and you will praise the name of the LORD your God,  
who has worked wonders for you;  
never again will my people be shamed.

<sup>27</sup> Then you will know that I am in Israel,  
that I am the LORD your God,  
and that there is no other;  
never again will my people be shamed.

## **The Day of the LORD**

<sup>28</sup> “And afterward,

I will pour out my Spirit on all people.  
Your sons and daughters will prophesy,  
your old men will dream dreams,  
your young men will see visions.

<sup>29</sup> Even on my servants, both men and women,  
I will pour out my Spirit in those days.

<sup>30</sup> I will show wonders in the heavens  
and on the earth,  
blood and fire and billows of smoke.

<sup>31</sup> The sun will be turned to darkness  
and the moon to blood  
before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD.

<sup>32</sup> And everyone who calls  
on the name of the LORD will be saved;  
for on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem  
there will be deliverance,  
as the LORD has said,  
even among the survivors  
whom the LORD calls.

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

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*Please Stand*

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**“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 HOLY GOSPEL**

**Luke 18:9-14 Page 901 in pew bible**

### **The Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector**

<sup>9</sup> To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable: <sup>10</sup> “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. <sup>11</sup> The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed:

‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. <sup>12</sup> I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.’

<sup>13</sup> “But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, ‘God, have mercy on me, a sinner.’

<sup>14</sup> “I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

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

C: Thanks be to God.

**MESSAGE FOR OUR YOUNGER DISCIPLES**

**Amanda Blue**

*Please stand*

GRACE, FAITH

596

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

1 My hope is built on noth-ing less than Je-sus' blood and righ-teous-ness;  
 2 When dark-ness veils his love-ly face, I rest on his un - chang-ing grace;  
 3 His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sus-tain me in the rag - ing flood;  
 4 When he shall come with trum-pet sound, oh, may I then in him be found,

no mer-it of my own I claim, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.  
 in ev-'ry high and storm - y gale my an - chor holds with-in the veil.  
 when all sup-ports are washed a-way, he then is all my hope and stay.  
 clothed in his righ-teous-ness a-lone, re - deemed to stand be - fore the throne!

*Refrain*

On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is

sink - ing sand, all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

Text: Edward Mote, 1797-1874, alt.  
 Music: William B. Bradbury, 1816-1868

THE SOLID ROCK  
 8888888

*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**

#### **The Apostles Creed**

C: 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**

#### **Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise Him, all creatures here below.

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

## **THE OFFERING PRAYER**

**P:** Whatever challenges we face, O God,  
we have also known Your many blessings—  
threshing floors full of grain, vats overflowing with wine and oil.  
Accept these gifts as tokens of our thankfulness,  
that they may be used to prophesy in Your spirit  
and to share Your bounty with those in need.  
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*

As you come forward for communion, please place your yellow **Commitment Card** in the baskets.

**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 a right and good thing to give our thanks and praise to God,  
who made heaven and earth and all that is in it.

God commanded humankind to have dominion over the earth,  
to produce from its bounty a life of sharing and community,  
that all may find a saving relationship with God.

Through our sin, we have defiled the earth, and threaten our own existence with ruin.  
Through our greed, ignorance, and hate, we have defiled God's gifts to us,  
Yet, through it all, God's love never failed, even to the point of sending Jesus Christ  
to be our new life and salvation. By delivering us from captivity to sin,  
God has remained faithful to us, tempering anger with grace and mercy.  
And so, with Your people on earth, and all the company of heaven,  
we praise Your name and join their unending hymn, saying:

**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**

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.

### **THE DISTRIBUTION**

*Please Stand*

COMMUNION HYMN

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” ELW 631

SAVIOR

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

and showed His love among us: He sent His one and only Son. 1 John 4:9



1. Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to earth come down;
2. Breathe, O breathe Thy lov - ing Spir - it In - to ev - 'ry trou - bled breast!
3. Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er, Let us all Thy life re - ceive;
4. Fin - ish then Thy new cre - a - tion, Pure and spot - less let us be;



Fix in us Thy hum - ble dwell - ing, All Thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.  
 Let us all in Thee in - her - it, Let us find that prom - ised rest.  
 Sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, Nev - er - more Thy tem - ples leave.  
 Let us see Thy great sal - va - tion Per - fect - ly re - stored in Thee:



Je - sus, Thou art all com - pas - sion, Pure, un - bound - ed love Thou art; Vis - it  
 Take a - way our bent to sin - ning, Al - pha and O - me - ga be; End of  
 Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, Serve Thee as Thy hosts a - bove, Pray and  
 Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, Till in heav'n we take our place, Till we



us with Thy sal - va - tion, En - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.  
 faith, as its be - gin - ning, Set our hearts at lib - er - ty.  
 praise Thee with - out ceas - ing, Glo - ry in Thy per - fect love.  
 cast our crowns be - fore Thee, Lost in won - der, love and praise! A - men.



Charles Wesley  
 John Zundel; Choral ending arranged by David Allen  
 A higher setting may be found at No. 268; Alternate tune: HYFRYDOL, No. 89

BEECHER  
 8.7.8.7.D.

*Remain Standing*

**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: Breathe in the words of the psalmist:

“The pastures of the wilderness overflow, the hills gird themselves with joy, the meadows clothe themselves with flocks, the valleys deck themselves with grain, they shout and sing together for joy.”

Let these words fill you as you go forth, inspiring you to do no less.

Dream dreams, see visions, renew God’s temple, God’s church, God’s earth.

Go in peace.

C: Amen.

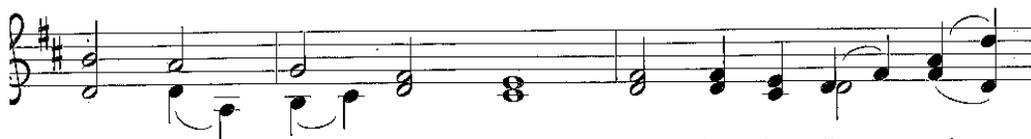
**† We Depart in Peace †**

HOPE, ASSURANCE

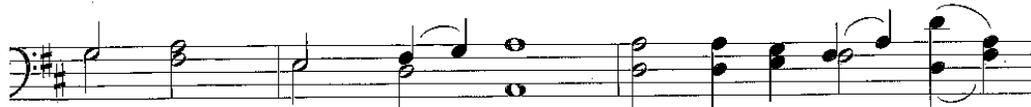
Know That My Redeemer Lives! 619



1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives! What com - fort  
2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; he lives e -  
3 He lives to grant me rich sup - ply; he lives to  
4 He lives to si - lence all my fears; he lives to



this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, he lives, who  
ter - nal - ly to save; he lives ex - alt - ed,  
guide me with his eye; he lives to com - fort  
wipe a - way my tears; he lives to calm my



once was dead; he lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head!  
throned a - bove; he lives to rule his church in love.  
me when faint; he lives to hear my soul's com - plaint.  
trou - bled heart; he lives all bless - ings to im - part.



- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 5 He lives to bless me with his love;<br>he lives to plead for me above;<br>he lives my hungry soul to feed;<br>he lives to help in time of need.                       | 7 He lives and grants me daily breath;<br>he lives, and I shall conquer death;<br>he lives my mansion to prepare;<br>he lives to bring me safely there. |
| 6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend;<br>he lives and loves me to the end;<br>he lives, and while he lives, I'll sing;<br>he lives, my prophet, priest, and king! | 8 He lives, all glory to his name!<br>He lives, my Savior, still the same;<br>what joy this blest assurance gives:<br>I know that my Redeemer lives!    |

# THE DISMISSAL

## Worship Volunteers

<b>This Week, October 23</b>	9:30 am Pastor Richard Blue	<b>Next Week, October 30</b>	9:30 a.m. Pastor Richard Blue
Assisting Minister	Debbie Mowrey	Assisting Minister	Christian Gries
Lector	Dawn Hahm	Lector	June Gries
Ushers	Linda Hess Wanda Stephens-Wooten	Ushers	Sheila Bryan John Browder
Greeters	Liz Clark Terry Clark	Greeters	Tom Fisher Nancy Fisher
Altar Guild	Karen Bell	Altar Guild	Karen Bell
Communion Assistant	June Gries	Communion Assistant	June Gries
Acolyte	Darrel Turner	Acolyte	Andrew Turner
Sound Technician	Dan Ivers	Sound Technician	Dan Ivers
Video Technician	Geoff LaFlower	Video Technician	Ronald Kissell
Bread Baker	Karen Bell	Bread Baker	Karen Bell
Women's Bible Study Snacks	June Gries	Women's Bible Study Snacks	Carol Hudson
Children's Sermon	Amanda Blue	Children's Sermon	John Browder
Counters (Monday)	Christian Gries Phil Miller	Counters (Monday)	Cindy Gregory Carol Hudson