

# 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.*

## TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST What Disciples Do

November 13, 2022



**Meditation:** How shall we thank God for the many blessings God has given to us? Shall we offer mighty songs of praise? Shall we give of our abundance? Shall we again pledge our loyalty to God through lives of service and compassion? Yes, in all these things we shall offer our praise and our commitment to God. Each new day, each new opportunity is a blessing given freely to us. God's new heaven and new earth reside in us. We have come before God today, proclaiming our faith. We have brought the names and situations of those near and dear to us before the throne of grace, seeking God's healing and redeeming love. We place our lives in God's care. In all of this, we are part of God's new creation, meant to bring hope and forgiveness to all. Open our hearts, Lord, we want to be Your agents of peace and hope. Open our lives, Lord, and help us work for You in this world so that in the world to come we may have eternal peace.

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



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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*

### 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.

## **PRELUDER 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: Lord, we are people who want instant answers to all our questions. We want to know how everything is going to work out throughout all of our lives. So, we pose questions in which we do not necessarily seek answers but rather entrap You into giving us what we want. Help us understand the broader picture--the scope of Your faithfulness and love for us. Remind us of all the times when You have lifted us and brought us to new opportunities for learning and growing. Let us place our trust in You totally, without reservation, for You are indeed faithful and just. As we have brought our prayers before You for our loved ones and for situations in the world in which pain and anger dominate, let us place our trust in Your response and Your healing love. Give us courage that our faith will be a witness to those who struggle; that our lives will bear the love You have lavished on us. For we ask these things in Jesus' Name. AMEN

### **BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:**

**C:** Merciful God, we come before You this day as those who are often afraid to confess all the many ways in which we have disappointed and betrayed You. You have given us continual opportunities to serve and love others, but we have withdrawn into lives of selfishness and greed. We have turned our backs on others in need. We have denied the gifts You have given us. Where can we turn now that we have run from You? Your voice calls to us to come home, to come to You unafraid, to receive forgiveness and healing. Open our hearts this day to receive these magnificent blessings. Help us understand the many ways in which You love us and help us share that love with all those whom we meet. For we ask this in the name of Jesus Christ. AMEN.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

### **WORDS OF ASSURANCE:**

P: Even though we have turned away from God, yet God is faithful to us. We are beloved of God and recipients of God's love and blessings. Rejoice, children of God! For God's mercies are ever before us. AMEN.

**C: Amen**

## OPENING HYMN

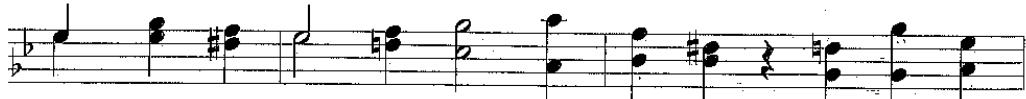
## "If you But Trust in God to Guide You" ELW 769

ST. GUIDANCE

## 39 If You But Trust in God to Guide You



1 If you but trust in God to guide you with gen - tle  
 2 What gain is there in anx - ious weep - ing, in help - less  
 3 The Lord our rest - less hearts is hold - ing, in peace and  
 4 Sing, pray, and keep God's ways un - swerv - ing, of - fer your



hand through all your ways, you'll find that God is there be -  
 an - ger and dis - tress? If you are in your Sav - ior's  
 qui - et - ness con - tent. We rest in God's good will un -  
 ser - vice faith - ful - ly. Trust heay-en's word; though un - de -



side you when cross - es come, in try - ing days. Trust then in  
 keep - ing, in sor - row will he love you less? For Christ who  
 fold - ing, what wis - dom from on high has sent. God, who has  
 serv - ing, you'll find God's prom - ise true to be. This is our



God's un - chang - ing love; build on the rock that will not move.  
 took for you a cross will bring you safe through ev - 'ry loss.  
 cho - sen us by grace, knows ver - y well the fears we face.  
 con - fi - dence in - deed: God nev - er fails in time of need.



## **CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: The Lord is continually creating something new

**C: We are part of that creation, renewed, redeemed, beloved.**

L: Through all this change, God is with us.

**C: Though we struggle and doubt, yet God is faithful**

L: Praise be to God who continually blesses us.

**C: Let our hearts, our voices, and our spirits sing God's praises. AMEN.**

## **OPENING PRAYER**

P: In the midst of continual change, God remains steadfast in God's love for us. God is creating something new, a new heaven and a new earth. Each day offers newness of hope and faith. Let us open our hearts and spirits to God's creative word for us that we may learn, grow, and serve as effective witnesses to God's love and power. AMEN.

*Please be seated*

## **† We Hear God's Word †**

### **FIRST READING**

Isaiah 65:17-25 (Page 644-645 in pew bible)

#### **New Heavens and a New Earth**

<sup>17</sup> "See, I will create  
    new heavens and a new earth.  
The former things will not be remembered,  
    nor will they come to mind.

<sup>18</sup> But be glad and rejoice forever  
    in what I will create,  
for I will create Jerusalem to be a delight  
    and its people a joy.

<sup>19</sup> I will rejoice over Jerusalem  
    and take delight in my people;  
the sound of weeping and of crying  
    will be heard in it no more.

<sup>20</sup> "Never again will there be in it  
    an infant who lives but a few days,  
or an old man who does not live out his years;

the one who dies at a hundred  
    will be thought a mere child;  
the one who fails to reach<sup>[a]</sup> a hundred  
    will be considered accursed.

- <sup>21</sup> They will build houses and dwell in them;  
    they will plant vineyards and eat their fruit.  
<sup>22</sup> No longer will they build houses and others live in them,  
    or plant and others eat.

For as the days of a tree,  
    so will be the days of my people;  
my chosen ones will long enjoy  
    the work of their hands.

<sup>23</sup> They will not labor in vain,  
    nor will they bear children doomed to misfortune;  
for they will be a people blessed by the LORD,  
    they and their descendants with them.

<sup>24</sup> Before they call I will answer;  
    while they are still speaking I will hear.

<sup>25</sup> The wolf and the lamb will feed together,  
    and the lion will eat straw like the ox,  
    and dust will be the serpent's food.

They will neither harm nor destroy  
    on all my holy mountain,"  
says the LORD.

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,  
Morning by morning new mercies I see!  
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided,  
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me."

### **"Great is Thy Faithfulness"**

**The Destruction of the Temple and Signs of the End Times**

<sup>5</sup> Some of his disciples were remarking about how the temple was adorned with beautiful stones and with gifts dedicated to God. But Jesus said, <sup>6</sup> “As for what you see here, the time will come when not one stone will be left on another; every one of them will be thrown down.”

<sup>7</sup> “Teacher,” they asked, “when will these things happen? And what will be the sign that they are about to take place?”

<sup>8</sup> He replied: “Watch out that you are not deceived. For many will come in my name, claiming, ‘I am he,’ and, ‘The time is near.’ Do not follow them. <sup>9</sup> When you hear of wars and uprisings, do not be frightened. These things must happen first, but the end will not come right away.”

<sup>10</sup> Then he said to them: “Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. <sup>11</sup> There will be great earthquakes, famines and pestilences in various places, and fearful events and great signs from heaven.

<sup>12</sup> “But before all this, they will seize you and persecute you. They will hand you over to synagogues and put you in prison, and you will be brought before kings and governors, and all on account of my name. <sup>13</sup> And so you will bear testimony to me. <sup>14</sup> But make up your mind not to worry beforehand how you will defend yourselves. <sup>15</sup> For I will give you words and wisdom that none of your adversaries will be able to resist or contradict. <sup>16</sup> You will be betrayed even by parents, brothers and sisters, relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. <sup>17</sup> Everyone will hate you because of me. <sup>18</sup> But not a hair of your head will perish. <sup>19</sup> Stand firm, and you will win life.

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

C: Thanks be to God.

**MESSAGE FOR OUR YOUNGER DISCIPLES**

**Pastor Amanda Blue**

*Please stand*

T, GUIDANCE

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## What God Ordains Is Good Indeed



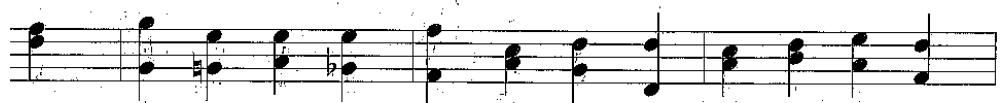
What God or-dains is good in-deed, for all life well pro-vid-ing.  
 What God or-dains is good in-deed; my light, my life, my Sav-ior!  
 What God or-dains is good in-deed. When hope seems like de-lu-sion,  
 What God or-dains is good in-deed. My Lord will nev-er fail me



The will of God is best for me, the ground of my con-fid-ing.  
 No ill can get the best of me; God's care will nev-er wa-ver.  
 I taste the bit-ter cup and plead, "Lord, quench my fear, con-fu-sion."  
 On dan-ger's path, in deep-est need, when death in grief shall veil me.



My faith-ful God, on ev-ry road you know the way un-  
 Through joy and pain I shall at-tain the dawn dis-clos-ing  
 God ends the night, re-stores de-light; by faith I face to-  
 My God so dear will draw me near, in lov-ing arms will



fold-ing and my hand you are hold-ing.  
 clear-ly that God has loved me dear-ly,  
 mor-row and yield to God all sor-row,  
 hold-me, at last in light en-fold me.



Samuel Rodigast, 1649–1708; tr. Martin A. Seltz, b. 1951  
 Severus Gastorius, 1646–1682

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## MESSAGE FOR OUR OLDER DISCIPLES

Rev. Dr. Richard Blue Jr.

*Please Stand*

### † We Respond to God's Word †

#### THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*Apostles' Creed*

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and 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:** Holy God who calls us to the journey: it is so easy for us to become distracted so that we wander off the path you have put before us. The chaos of the world around us catches our attention, and we neglect the inner journey that keeps us closer to you. As we set aside this time to bring our gifts to you, may you draw our attention back to the wisdom and guidance that you put before us, and may it lead us to endurance that will carry us to kingdom presence! In Christ, we pray. Amen. (Luke 21:5-19)

### **† 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 up to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: It is right, and a good and joyful thing,  
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,  
Father Almighty (almighty God), creator of heaven and earth.

You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life.

When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast.

You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God,

and spoke to us through your prophets, who looked for that day

when justice shall roll down like waters

and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream,

when nation shall not lift up sword against nation,

neither shall they learn war anymore.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven  
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: Jesus said, 'Come to me, all who are weary and whose load is heavy; I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble-hearted; and you will find rest for your souls.'

Come to the to the table and rest in the presence of Jesus, Amen!

*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

## "My Shepherd, You Supply my Need" ELW 782

1 My Shep - herd, you sup - ply my need; most ho - ly is your name.  
 2 When I walk through the shades of death, your pres-ence is my stay;  
 3 The sure pro - vi - sions of my God at - tend me all my days;

In pas - tures fresh you make me feed, be - side the liv - ing stream.  
 one word of your sup - port - ing breath drives all my fears a - way.  
 oh, may your house be my a - bode and all my work be praise.

You bring my wan - d'ring spir - it back when I for - sake your ways,  
 Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my ta - ble spread;  
 Here would I find a set - tled rest, while oth - ers go and come;

and lead me, for your mer - cy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.  
 my cup with bless - ings o - ver - flows, your oil a - noints my head.  
 no more a strang - er or a guest, but like a child at home.

*Remain Standing*

## **THE BLESSING AFTER THE MEAL**

P: Almighty and ever living God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

## **THE BENEDICTION**

P: We go from this place rejoicing in God's love. We commit our lives to serving God by serving others. God's love has made us new. God's peace goes with us in all that we say and do. AMEN.

A:    **Amen.**

**† We Depart in Peace †**

## THE CLOSING HYMN

## "Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus" ELW 802

MMITMENT, DISCIPLESHIP

02

## Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus



1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, fol - low his ex - am - ple pure,  
 2 Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus, and with pa-tience bear our cross.  
 3 Let us glad - ly die with Je - sus. Since by death he con-quered death,  
 4 Let us al - so live with Je - sus. He has ris - en from the dead



through a world that would de-ceive us and to sin our spir - its lure.  
 Joy will fol - low all our sad-ness; where he is there is no loss.  
 he will free us from de - struc-tion, give to us im - mor - tal breath.  
 that to life we may a - wak - en. Je - sus, you are now our head,



On - ward in his foot-steps tread-ing, trav - 'lers here, our home a - bove,  
 Though to - day we sow no laugh-ter, we shall reap ce - les - tial joy;  
 Let us mor - ti - fy all pas - sion that would lead us in - to sin;  
 we are your own liv - ing mem-bers; where you live, there we shall be



full of faith and hope and love, let us do our Sav - ior's bid - ding.  
 all dis - com-forts that an - noy shall give way to mirth here - af - ter.  
 and the grave that shuts us in shall but prove the gate of heav - en.  
 in your pres - ence con - stant - ly, liv - ing there with you for - ev - er.



## THE DISMISSAL

**P: Following God's saints in the ways of holiness and truth, go in the peace of Christ.**

**A: Thanks be to God.**

## Worship Volunteers

| This Week, November 13     | 9:30 am Pastor Richard Blue         | Next Week, November 20     | 9:30 a.m. Pastor Richard Blue  |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Assisting Minister         | Tracey Guffey                       | Assisting Minister         | Christian Gries                |
| Lector                     | Debbie Mowrey                       | Lector                     | Christian Gries                |
| Ushers                     | Linda Hess<br>Wanda Stephens-Wooten | Ushers                     | Tracy Guffey<br>Neal Guffey    |
| Greeters                   | June Gries<br>Ron Westerfeld        | Greeters                   | John Shaw<br>Joan Shaw         |
| Altar Guild                | Karen Bell                          | Altar Guild                | Diana Clements-Scott           |
| Communion Assistant        | Karen Bell                          | Communion Assistant        | Tina Beck                      |
| Acolyte                    | Darrell Turner                      | Acolyte                    | Eli Stearns                    |
| Sound Technician           | Dan Ivers                           | Sound Technician           | Ronald Kissell                 |
| Video Technician           | Neal Guffey                         | Video Technician           | Neal Guffey                    |
| Bread Baker                | Kenya Ostermeier                    | Bread Baker                | Kenya Ostermeier               |
| Women's Bible Study Snacks | Sherry Coomes                       | Women's Bible Study Snacks | Carol Hudson                   |
| Slide Creators             | Phil Miller & Terry Clark           | Slide Creators             | Phil Miller & Terry Clark      |
| Children's Sermon          | Amanda Blue                         | Children's Sermon          | Tracey Guffey                  |
| Counters (Monday)          | Cindy Gregory<br>Carol Hudson       | Counters (Monday)          | Christian Gries<br>Phil Miller |