

St. James Lutheran Church

1741 S State Street
Greenfield Indiana 46140

Our congregation's mission statement is to bring people to Christ,
encouraging relationships with Him and others.



Third Sunday After Epiphany

January 22, 2023

Meditation: Epiphany is the season of light, and today's texts proclaim the light that has come into the world. This light has come particularly to those who sit in darkness: the darkness of exile, the darkness of division, the darkness of suffering, or the darkness of ignorance to the true word of God. And when the light dawns on their minds and souls and hearts, it calls forth a response—rejoicing, renewed commitment to God, walking in God's ways, and even following a stranger into an unknown, uncertain future.

Today's flowers are given by Debby Mowrey in memory of Jean Meyer and in honor of Alicia Espinal's Birthday



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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.

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

We are Marching

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please Stand

□ We Lift Our Hearts in Worship □

INVOCATION AND PRAYER

P: God of light and love, we come this morning
with eyes stinging from the brightness of your glory.

We have become so accustomed to the darkness, that your radiant light sometimes
overwhelms us.

Open our eyes to the light of your dawn, that our souls may be flooded with love and
mercy and joy.

Open our hearts to receive your message of comfort and peace and security,
that we may find rest in your loving, protective presence.

Open our spirits to follow the path you put before us, that we may lead lives committed
to your Way. Amen.

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (Isaiah 9, Psalm 27, 1 Corinthians, Matthew 9)

**C: God of light,
we live in the darkness of despair:
worried about our lives,
concerned for our health,
fearful that we are lost from you.
The yoke of our burdens lies heavy upon us:
our unwillingness to forgive,
our fears of one another,
our reluctance to share what we have,
our divisions and quarrels.
We long to turn from the dark
and live in the light.
We yearn to leave what is evil
and follow the paths of righteousness.
Shine the light of your love upon us
and transform us with your love,
that your promised realm may draw near. Amen.**

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE:

P: The light of God's love
shines into the dark places of our world,
healing its brokenness,
and bringing hope to places of despair.
The light of God's love
makes us a forgiven people.
Thanks be to God!

C: Amen

I Love to Tell the Story



1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,
 2 I love to tell the sto - ry: how pleas - ant to re - peat
 3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best



of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.
 what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!
 seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it like the rest.



I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;
 I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard
 And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,



it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else would do.
 the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly word.
 I'll sing the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

Refrain



I love to tell the sto - ry; I'll sing this theme in glo - ry



and tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: We walk in darkness.

C: We live in a land of deep darkness.

L: We have seen a great light!

C: Light shines upon us!

L: God brings us joy!

C: Rejoice before our God!

OPENING PRAYER

P: O God, our light and our salvation, shelter us in your love.

O God, our stronghold, protect us from danger.

We come with shouts of joy to worship you this day.

We come with song and music to celebrate your love.

We come with longing to seek your presence.

Be with us now, O God, as we sing your praises. Amen.

Please be seated

Installation of Terry Clark as Interim President of Council.

□ We Hear God's Word □

FIRST READING

Isaiah 9:1-4 (page 593 in your pew bible)

9 ^[a]Nevertheless, there will be no more gloom for those who were in distress. In the past he humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the future he will honor Galilee of the nations, by the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan—

²The people walking in darkness
have seen a great light;
on those living in the land of deep darkness
a light has dawned.

³You have enlarged the nation
and increased their joy;
they rejoice before you
as people rejoice at the harvest,
as warriors rejoice
when dividing the plunder.

⁴For as in the day of Midian's defeat,

you have shattered
the yoke that burdens them,
the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor.

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

C: Thanks be to God.

Please Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

“Alleluia”

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life.
Alleluia. Alleluia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 4:18-23 (Page 829 in pew bible)

Jesus Calls His First Disciples

¹⁸ As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹ “Come, follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will send you out to fish for people.” ²⁰ At once they left their nets and followed him.

²¹ Going on from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat with their father Zebedee, preparing their nets. Jesus called them, ²² and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

Jesus Heals the Sick

²³ Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people.

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

C: Thanks be to God.

Please Be Seated

MESSAGE FOR OUR YOUNGER DISCIPLES

June Gries

Please stand

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Will You Come and Follow Me” ELW 798

Will You Come and Follow Me

The Summon

798



1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call
 2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call
 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call
 4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call
 5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call



your name? Will you go where you don't
 your name? Will you care for cruel and
 your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners
 your name? Will you quell the fear in -
 my name. Let me turn and fol - low



know and nev - er be the same?
 kind and nev - er be the same?
 free and nev - er be the same?
 side and nev - er be the same?
 you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, will you let my
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and



name be known, will you let my life be
 tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer
 this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I
 world a - round, through my sight and touch and
 foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and



grown in you and you in me?"
 pray'r in you and you in me?"
 mean in you and you in me?"
 sound in you and you in me?"
 grow in you and you in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949
 Music: Scottish traditional

HELVING
 1955

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

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

Please be seated

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

OFFERTORY MUSIC- Special Music

THE OFFERING RESPONSE

Let the Vineyards be Fruitful

Let the vineyard be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.

Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.

Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer.

Grace our table with Your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

THE OFFERING PRAYER

P: Light has dawned in our lives and in our world. We are called to share that light, and to speak words of comfort and calling in a world shrouded still in gloom and darkness. Our offering will enable this community to be a beacon of light to those caught in the darkness of suffering and wandering.

□ We Celebrate the Lord's Supper □

Here our Lord gives to us His own Body and Blood for the forgiveness of all our sins

Pastor: The Lord be with you

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

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

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Eucharistic Prayer

Pastor: It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give You thanks, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For in Him you have made known to us the mystery of Your will according to Your good pleasure, to re-create all things in Christ. In Him, You have made known to us the secret of Your counsel, to gather up all things in Him, things in heaven and things on earth.

In Him You were pleased to restore the unity of all in one, both things on earth and things in heaven.

And so, with all the angels and saints we proclaim Your glory, as with one voice we sing:

Sanctus

People: Holy, Holy, Holy 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.

Words of Jesus

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way after supper, saying, "This cup is the new testament in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The Lord's Prayer

People: 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. Amen.

Invitation

Pastor: The gifts of God for the people of God.

Communion

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

Here I Am, Lord

574



1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.
 2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.
 3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
 I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way.
 I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.



I, who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.
 I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.
 Fin-est bread I will pro-vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"
 I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?"
 I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?"

Refrain

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

Remain Standing

THE BLESSING AFTER THE MEAL

Pastor: Let us pray

Almighty God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go forth in the power of your love, serve you in our daily life and bear witness to your goodness in the world. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Pastor: May the Lord, who has fed you with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, continue to nourish you and strengthen you in faith. And may the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you forever. Amen.

All: Amen.

THE BENEDICTION

P: Go forth bathed in the light and love of God.
Go forth to join with Jesus to proclaim the good news
of this love and light.
Go forth empowered by the Spirit
to live the Way with courage, conviction, and joy.

All: Amen.

□ We Depart in Peace □

THE CLOSING HYMN

“Go My Children, With My Blessing” ELW 543

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

543

1 “Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
 2 “Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
 3 “Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.

Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
 Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.

In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
 Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com - fort stilled you.

Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own.”
 Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.”
 Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free.”

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, alt.
 Music: Welsh traditional; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958
 Text © 1993 Concordia Publishing House
 Arr. © Oxford University Press

ARHYDNOS
 84848884

THE DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God

Worship Volunteer Schedule	Sunday 1/22/2023	Sunday 1/29/23
Assisting Minister	Joan Shaw	Tracy Guffey
Lector	Dawn Hahm	June Gries
Ushers	Linda Hess Wanda Stephens-Wooten	Jim & Deb Jackson
Greeters	Liz Clark Terry Clark	Alan & Jeanette Berkshire
Altar Guild	Diana Clements-Scott	Diana Clements-Scott
Communion Assistant	June Gries	June Gries
Acolyte	Darrel Turner	Luke Stearns
Sound Technician	Dan Ivers	Dan Ivers
Video Technician	Ronald Kissell	Neal Guffey
Bread Baker	Kenya Ostermeier	Kenya Ostermeier
Women's Bible Study Snacks	Open (Jan 23)	June Gries (Jan 30)
Slide Creators	John Browder & Phil Miller	Bill & Sherry Coomes
Children's Sermon	June Gries	John Browder
Counters (Monday)	Phil Miller Maggie Bode	Maggie Bode Cindy Gregory