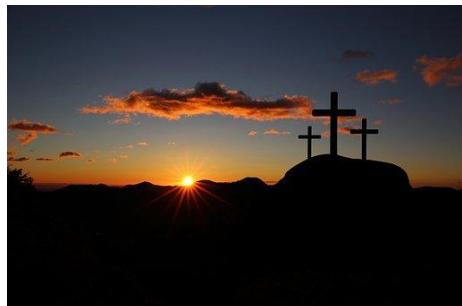


St. James Lutheran Church

1741 S State Street
Greenfield Indiana 46140

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



First Sunday of Lent

February 26, 2023

Meditation: Major life decisions may include how you more fully live your vocation, approach your life of prayer, handle your finances, approach a certain relationship, or any other pressing question you have in life right now. Throughout your life, God will call you to resolve more deeply, to surrender more fully, and to serve more completely. What is He calling you to do right now?

Today's flowers are given in memory of Katherine Berkshire by Chuck Weber



1741 S. State Street
Greenfield, IN 46140
Phone: 317-462-7340
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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

John Browder

Please Stand

+ We Lift Our Hearts in Worship +

INVOCATION AND PRAYER

P: O Lord, open our lips

All: and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

P: Hear our voice, O Lord, according to your faithful love,

All: according to your judgement give us life.

P: Blessed are you, God of compassion and mercy,

to you be praise and glory for ever.

In the darkness of our sin,

your light breaks forth like the dawn

and your healing springs up for deliverance.

As we rejoice in the gift of your saving help,

sustain us with your bountiful Spirit

and open our lips to sing your praise.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.+

All: Blessed be God for ever.

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

(Psalm 32)

A: We keep silent before you, Lord—
we are afraid to confront our transgressions;

L: we are terrified to face the reality of our sin;

A: we feel as if the weight of the world
were upon our shoulders;

L: we no longer recognize ourselves
or what we have become
as we keep our failings and fears inside.

A: Help us admit our sins and accept our imperfections.

Why is that simple act so difficult for us?

Why do we hesitate, knowing that you stand ready
to wash away our guilt?

L: You are the sanctuary where distress cannot reach us.

A: In your steadfast love, forgive us.

In your healing caress, cleanse us.

In your Holy Spirit, restore us.

In the name of our Savior, we pray. Amen.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE:

(Psalm 32)

P: When distress and anxiety surround us
like an angry flood,
our pleas are heard.

The Lord hears the prayers of a faithful heart.

God has become our hiding place,
our refuge from trouble.

No harm can touch us here.

The Lord wraps us in the arms of salvation.

Shouts of deliverance enfold us.

Amen.

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat - 'ning to de -
 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who

to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
 ject - ed. But now a cham-pion comes to fight, whom
 your us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
 fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with

wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
 God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
 can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
 weap-ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,

has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
 The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
 in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
 goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,

he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
 God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
 God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
 they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*, 1978
 Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther, 1483–1546

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CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Happy are those whose sins are forgiven.

C: Happy are those whose sins are cast away.

L: Rejoice in the Lord! Be glad!

C: Sing out! Shout for joy!

L: Rejoice in the Lord!

C: Rejoice! Amen!

OPENING PRAYER

(Genesis 2, 3; Psalm 32; Matthew 4)

P: Holy One,
we are constantly bombarded
with temptations and enticements.

When we yield, when we fail,
who will help us?

You, Lord, have come to our aid.
You teach us, counsel us, and guide us
in the ways we should go.
We rejoice in your unfailing love. Amen.

Kyrie

ELW Page 203

A *Kyrie* may be sung by all.



S 203

1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

Please be seated

† We Hear God's Word †

FIRST READING

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7 (pages 2-3 in your pew bible)

¹⁵The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. ¹⁶And the LORD God commanded the man, “You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; ¹⁷but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die.”

The Fall

3 Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden’?”

2 The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, ³ but God did say, ‘You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.’”

4 “You will not certainly die,” the serpent said to the woman. **5** “For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

6 When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. **7** Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

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

C: Thanks be to God.

Please Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

During Lent.

“Gospel Acclamation” ELW Page 205



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 4: 1-11 (Page 829 in pew bible)

Jesus Is Tested in the Wilderness

4 Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted^[a] by the devil. **2** After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. **3** The tempter came to him and said, “If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread.”

4 Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’^[b]”

5 Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. **6** “If you are the Son of God,” he said, “throw yourself down. For it is written:

“He will command his angels concerning you,
and they will lift you up in their hands,
so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.’^[c]”

7 Jesus answered him, “It is also written: ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’^[d]”

8 Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. **9** “All this I will give you,” he said, “if you will bow down and worship me.”

10 Jesus said to him, “Away from me, Satan! For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.’^[e]”

11 Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.

P: The Gospel of Our Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Please Be Seated

MESSAGE FOR OUR YOUNGER DISCIPLES

Rev. Amanda Blue

Please stand

HYMN OF THE DAY "O Lord Throughout these Forty Days" ELW 319

319 O Lord, throughout These Forty Days

The musical score consists of three staves of music in G clef, 2/4 time, and B-flat key signature. The first staff begins with a half note followed by eighth notes. The second staff begins with a quarter note followed by eighth notes. The third staff begins with a half note followed by eighth notes. The lyrics are as follows:

1 O Lord, through - out these for - ty days you
2 You strove with Sa - tan, and you won; your
3 Though parched and hun - gry, yet you prayed and
4 Be with us through this sea - son, Lord, and

prayed and kept the fast; in - spire re - pen - tance
faith - ful - ness en - dured; lend us your nerve, your
fixed your mind a - bove; so teach us to de -
all our earth - ly days, that when the fi - nal

for our sin, and free us from our past.
skill and trust in God's e - ter - nal word.
ny our - selves that we may know God's love.
Eas - ter dawns, we join in heav - en's praise.

Please be seated

MESSAGE FOR OUR OLDER DISCIPLES

Rev. Dr. Richard Blue

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 worshiping 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

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.

THE OFFERING PRAYER

P: In the hour of his temptation, when Jesus hungered,
He knew from where His sustenance came:
“One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes
from the mouth of God.”
Lord, from the abundance of Your grace,
Your word has provided all that we need.
All that we have is Yours.
Receive the offering of our hands
and the gratitude of our hearts.
In the name of our Savior we pray. 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

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. 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. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Invitation

P: As we gather at the Lord's table, all are welcome. Having a common purpose, we receive growth from the love of God, and nurture and nourishment from the body and blood of Christ Jesus. At this table, we are redeemed by God, reconciled to one another, and called to labor in God's fields, where love and forgiveness are sown. The table is ready; the meal is prepared. Come, be fed, and savor the feast of the Lord!

Communion

Please be seated

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, You bear the sin of all of the world away;
You suffered death our lives to save: Have mercy now, we pray.

THE DISTRIBUTION

Please Stand

COMMUNION HYMN

TRUST, GUIDANCE

785

“When Peace Like a River” ELW 785

When Peace like a River
It Is Well with My Soul

1 When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my way, when
 2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, let
 3 He lives—oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought; my
 4 Lord, has - ten the day when our faith shall be sight, the



sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll, what - ev - er my lot, thou hast
 this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that Christ hath re - gard - ed my
 sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to his cross and I
 clouds be rolled back as a scroll, the trum - pet shall sound and the



taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.
 help - less es - tate, and hath shed his own blood for my soul.
 bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
 Lord shall de - descend; e - ven so it is well with my soul.



Refrain

It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.
 It is well with my soul,



Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828–1888
 Music: Philip P. Bliss, 1838–1876

VILLE DU HAVRE
 118 119 and refrain

Remain Standing

THE BLESSING AFTER THE MEAL

Pastor: Let us pray to 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.

All: Amen.

THE BENEDICTION

P: Though we were condemned, we have found pardon.
Though death held dominion over our lives,
God's grace and gift of righteousness
now lives and reigns within us.
We are free. We are forgiven. We are alive in Christ!
Amen!

All: Amen.

† We Depart in Peace †

THE CLOSING HYMN

“Jesus Still Lead On” ELW 624

Jesus, Still Lead On



1 Je - sus, still lead on, till our rest be won; and, al - though the
2 If the way be drear, if the foc be near, let no faith - less
3 When we seek re - lief from a long-felt grief, when temp-ta - tions
4 Je - sus, still lead on, till our rest be won; heav'n-ly lead - er,



way be cheer - less, we will fol - low, calm and fear - less;
fears o'er - take us, let not faith and hope for - sake us;
come al - lur - ing make us pa - tient and en - dur - ing;
still di - rect us, still sup - port, con - sole, pro - tect us,



guide us by your hand to our Fa - ther's land.
safe - ly past the foe to our home we go.
show us that bright shore where we weep no more.
till we safe - ly stand in our Fa - ther's land.

Text: Nicolaus L. von Zinzendorf, 1700–1760; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813–1897, alt.
Music: SEELENBRÄUTIGAM, Adam Drese, 1620–1701

THE DISMISSAL

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

People: Thanks be to God

Worship Volunteer Schedule	Sunday 2/26/2023	Weds 3/1/2023	Sunday 3/5/23
Assisting Minister	Debbie Mowrey	Debbie Mowrey	Joan Shaw
Lector	Dawn Hahm	Christian Gries	Kenya Ostermeijer
Ushers	Linda Hess Wanda Stephens-Wooten	John Browder & Sheila Bryan	Jim Jackson Deb Jackson
Greeters	Liz Clark Terry Clark	Liz Clark Terry Clark	Jeannette & Alan Berkshire
Altar Guild	Karen Bell	Karen Bell	Karen Bell
Communion Assistant	June Gries	Karen Bell	Karen Bell
Acolyte	Darrel Turner	Darrel Turner	Luke Stearns
Sound Technician	Dan Ivers	Ronald Kissell	Ronald Kissell
Video Technician	Geoff LaFlower	Geoff LaFlower	Geoff LaFlower
Bread Baker	Karen Bell	Karen Bell	Jane Hale
Women's Bible Study Snacks	Debbie Brooks (Feb 27)	-	Marieta Boone (March 6)
Slide Creators	Bill & Sherry Coomes	?	Terry Clark
Children's Sermon	Amanda Blue	-	Allison LaFlower
Counters (Monday)	Christian Gries Phil Miller	Cindy Gregory	Christian Gries Phil Miller