



**St. James Evangelical
Lutheran Church
July 28, 2019
Seventh Sunday after
Pentecost**

**Worship every Sunday
10:45 AM**

Welcome

***We welcome all visitors who come to worship with us today.
We are delighted that you have come to share in the prayer
and praise of our Lord and invite you to return and add your
voice to ours in holy celebration. If you have a special need or
prayer write it on the prayer card in the pew rack and place it
in the offering plate. Before you leave us today, we ask that
you please sign our guest book.***

**Pastor: REVS. SCOTT & CAROL CUSTEAD
SUPPLY PULPIT: LINDA WEKO
Church Organist/Choir Director: PATRICIA McCONNELL
Administrative Assistant: Tim Surkovich**

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St. James Mission Statement: To make disciples of Jesus Christ through Word and Sacrament by the Holy Spirit.

Announcements: If you cannot read the hymns, you can turn to the hymn in the red ELW hymnal in the pew racks.

Prelude: Prelude In C R.W. Martin
(*We take this time to silently prepare our hearts and minds for worship*)

PLEASE STAND

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

In the name of the Father, and of the ✚ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

With honesty of heart, let us confess our sin.

An extended silence may be kept.

Merciful God,

We confess that we are captive 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.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.

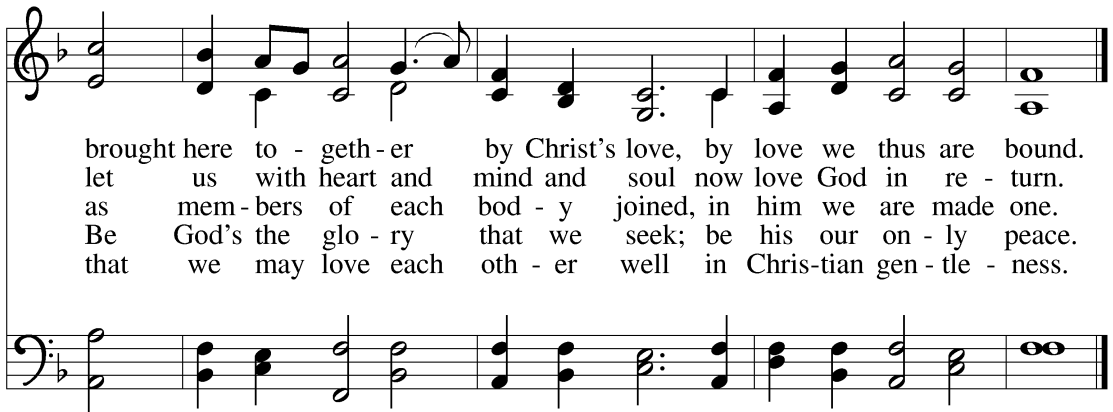
Amen.

We Gather

Where Charity and Love Prevail



1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;
2 With grate - ful joy and ho - ly fear, God's char - i - ty we learn;
3 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son;
4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; let all con - ten - tions cease.
5 Let us for - give each oth - er's faults as we our own con - fess,



brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.
let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in re - turn.
as mem - bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.
Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.
that we may love each oth - er well in Chris - tian gen - tle - ness.

Text: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; tr. Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.

Music: TWENTY-FOURTH, attr. Lucius Chapin, 1760–1842

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***GREETING:**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

Glory to God

Assisting minister



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY:

P: Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray, and you gladly give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us your abundant mercy. Forgive us those things that weigh on our conscience, and give us those good things that come only through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

We Listen to the Word

First Reading:

Genesis 18:20-32

A reading from Genesis.

²⁰Then the LORD said, "How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! ²¹I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me; and if not, I will know."

²²So the men turned from there, and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the LORD. ²³Then Abraham came near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? ²⁴Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? ²⁵Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?" ²⁶And the LORD said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake." ²⁷Abraham answered, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. ²⁸Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And he said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there." ²⁹Again he spoke to him, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." ³⁰Then he said, "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there." He answered, "I will not do it, if I find thirty there." ³¹He said, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it." ³²Then he said, "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there." He answered, "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it."

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

¹I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart; before the gods I will sing your praise.

²**I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your steadfast love and faithfulness; for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.**

³When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me.

⁴**All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O LORD, when they have heard the words of your mouth.**

⁵They will sing of the ways of the LORD, that great is the glory of the LORD.

⁶**The LORD is high, yet cares for the lowly, perceiving the haughty from afar.**

⁷Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe; you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand shall save me.

⁸**You will make good your purpose for me; O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands.**

Second Reading:

Colossians 2:6-15

A reading from Colossians.

⁶As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, ⁷rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. ⁸See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. ⁹For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, ¹⁰and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority.

¹¹In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; ¹²when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. ¹³And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, ¹⁴erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

***GOSPEL:**

Luke 11:1-13

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.



C

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

¹[Jesus] was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.”² He said to them, “When you pray, say:

Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. ³Give us each day our daily bread. ⁴And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial.”

⁵And he said to them, “Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; ⁶for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.’ ⁷And he answers from within, ‘Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.’

⁸I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

⁹“So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. ¹⁰For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. ¹¹Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? ¹²Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? ¹³If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

The Gospel of the Lord.



C

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

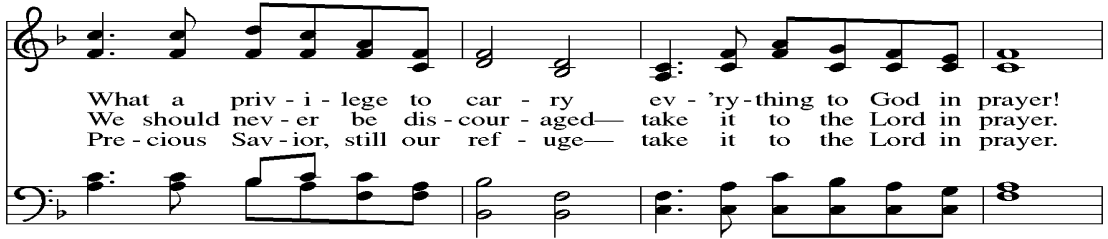
We Respond to the Word

*Hymn of the Day: What a Friend We Have in Jesus ELW 742

What a Friend We Have in Jesus



1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
2 Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?
3 Are we weak and heav - y - lad - en, cum - bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!
We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged— take it to the Lord in prayer.
Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge— take it to the Lord in prayer.



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; oh, what need - less pain we bear—
Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor - rows share?
Do your friends de - spise, for - sake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!
Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak - ness— take it to the Lord in prayer.
In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a so - lace there.

***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 Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.**

Prayers of Intercession

Treasuring your promise to hear us when we call, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of your creation.

A brief silence.

Merciful God, you know your church. Guard and keep the whole body of Christ. Increase in us strength, love, and peace so that we are a blessing to the world. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Merciful Creator, you know the work of your hands. Guard and keep your creation. Bless the work of those who tend the earth's resources and who seek to provide abundantly for all. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Merciful King, you know the nations, and you are the head of every ruler and authority. Guard and keep the world in justice and mercy, and let the words of your mouth bring peace on earth. Your kingdom come. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Merciful Lord, you know our needs. Guard and keep those who are hungry, those who are victims of violence or oppression, and those who are weary from illness (*especially*). Give us today our daily bread. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Merciful God, you know our congregation. Guard and keep those who enrich us with the gift of music in this place, proclaiming the gospel in song (*as did Johann Sebastian Bach, Heinrich Schütz, and George Frederick Handel whom we commemorate today*). Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Merciful Lord, you know your saints. Guard and keep those faithful departed (*especially*). Inspire our confidence in you until that day when we are all raised in the power and glory of Christ. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

All these things and more we ask in the name of our risen Lord, Jesus Christ, by the power of your Holy Spirit.

Amen.

*Sharing of the Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

We Offer Our Gifts

Offertory:

Solemn Moment

E.R. Larson

*Offertory Hymn:

Create in Me a Clean Heart

Create in Me a Clean Heart *Offering Song*



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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*Offering Prayer:

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Lord remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

*The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

We Are Sent

*Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

*Sending Song: There's a Wideness in God's Mercy ELW 588
(*next page*)

*Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

*Postlude: Berceuse Anatole Liadow

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy



1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer - cy, like the wide-ness of the sea;
2 There is wel - come for the sin - ner, and a prom - ised grace made good;
3 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sures of our mind;
4 'Tis not all we owe to Je - sus; it is some - thing more than all:



there's a kind - ness in God's jus - tice which is more than lib - er - ty.
there is mer - cy with the Sav - ior; there is heal - ing in his blood.
and the heart of the E - ter - nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind.
great - er good be - cause of e - vil, larg - er mer - cy through the fall.



There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than up in heav'n.
There is grace e - nough for thou - sands of new worlds as great as this;
But we make this love too nar - row by false lim - its of our own;
Make our love, O God, more faith - ful; let us take you at your word,



There is no place where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment giv'n.
there is room for fresh cre - a - tions in that up - per home of bliss.
and we mag - ni - fy its strict - ness with a zeal God will not own.
and our lives will be thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of the Lord.

Announcements

IN THE CASE OF A PASTORAL EMERGENCY,

In the event of a Pastoral Emergency, please contact Pastors Scott & Carol Custead

Phone: 814-254-3072 Email: scustead@atlanticbb.net or ccustead@atlanticbb.net

The pastors will be away from July 25 -31. During this period pastoral coverage is being provided by Pastor Barry Folmar of First Lutheran Church. He can be reached at First's office (942-3816) or his personal phone (814-404-6615)

The church office email is stjamesaltoona@gmail.com The church's website is www.stjamesaltoona.org

On Facebook—St. James Lutheran Church—Altoona, PA

REMINDER AND IMPORTANT

BULLETIN ADDITIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED NO LATER THAN TUESDAY AT 10:30 AM.

For corrections, please contact the church office secretary Tim Surkovich, I'm in the office Monday-Thursday 9-1.

******IF AN ARTICLE FOR THE KIRCHENBLATT CANNOT BE SUBMITTED BY THE 15TH OF THE MONTH, PLEASE CALL AND RESERVE A SPACE FOR YOUR ARTICLE SO THAT THE KIRCHENBLATT CAN BE FORMATTED AHEAD OF TIME TO PROVIDE SPACE FOR ALL THE CONGREGATIONAL NEWS.******

Welcome

A warm welcome to Linda Weko from the parishioner's of St. James.



LUTHERAN DAY AT THE CURVE	TODAY	JUL 28TH 4 PM
BULLETIN DEADLINE		JUL 30TH 12 PM
BULLETIN DEADLINE		AUG 6TH 12 PM
CHURCH COUNCIL		AUG 6TH 6 PM
BULLETIN DEADLINE		AUG 13TH 12 PM
KIRCHENBLATT ARTICLE DEADLINE		AUG 15TH 12 PM
BULLETIN DEADLINE		AUG 20TH 12 PM
BULLETIN DEADLINE		AUG 27TH 12 PM
SWEETS AND TREATS		SEP 1ST 10 AM
WELCA MEETING		SEP 7TH 10 AM *
* NOTE THIS IS A DATE CHANGE		
RENEW, RELAX, REFRESH		SEP 28TH 9-4
ALLEGHENY SYNODICAL ORGINAZTIONAL EVENT		

NO COUNCIL MEETINGS IN JULY
NO SWEETS AND TREATS IN JULY AND AUGUST
NO POTLUCK IN JULY AND AUGUST

Our Prayer List:

Tim Surkovich

Joe Yanke

(Names for inclusion on our parish prayer list can be submitted to the church office. The name will remain on the list for one month. At the end of that period please advise the church office, if you would like the name to be continue for another month.)

Those serving in our military

Graystone Manor//Bellmeade

Robert Civils

Presbyterian Village in Hollidaysburg:

Patti Green

Allegheny Lutheran Home:

Janet Kauffman

In their own homes:

Deborah Manbeck

Glenn Dell

John Wiederkehr



Dear Friends,

On Sunday, November 17, 2019 the Allegheny Synod will be holding a worship service to kick off our year of celebration of the 50th Anniversary of Women's ordination in the Lutheran Church in America. The service will be at 4pm and hosted at Evangelical Lutheran in Duncansville. All are welcome and clergy will be invited to vest and process.

I wanted to share with you that we are honored to have **Pastor Elizabeth Platz** joining us to preside at the service. Pastor Platz was the first woman ordained a Lutheran Pastor in the United States. She was ordained by the Delaware/Maryland Synod and spent much of her career as campus minister at the University of Maryland. There will be a reception after the service and Pastor Platz has been gracious enough to join us for a question and answer time about her ministry.

Additionally, we will welcome **Bishop Barbara Collins** of the Upper Susquehanna Synod as our guest preacher for the service. We are thankful that Bishop Collins can join us for this day of celebration.

I hope you will mark your calendar and plan on joining us for this special service as we begin our year of celebration. As we proceed through the year, our 50th Anniversary Committee will be sharing information on events and services we will be hosting throughout the year. I also ask you to please help us by sharing this announcement with your congregations.

Thank you and God bless you,

Bishop Michael



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BEING FINANCIALLY PREPARED AND LIVING GENEROUSLY GO HAND IN HAND

At Thrivent Financial, we guide people to be wise with money and live generously. We help our members support the causes they care about by putting their faith into action.

How would you like to share your:



Time and talents? We offer many opportunities to help your church, your community and the causes you care about.



Treasures? We can help you make smart choices about charitable giving options so your contributions go farther and you can enjoy potential tax benefits.

You can live a balanced and generous life by giving of your time, talents and treasures. And we're here to help.



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Church in America**
God's work. Our hands.