



# St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church January 26, 2020 3rd Sunday after Epiphany

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: MARK HOOVER**  
**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: Toccata For Strings G.M. 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 holy 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, for his sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

*We Gather*

\*GATHERING SONG:

O God of Light

# O God of Light

1 O God of light, your word, a lamp unfailing,  
shall pierce the darkness of our earthbound way  
and show your grace, your plan for us unveiling,  
and guide our footsteps to the perfect day.

**Refrain:** Lead us from darkness, lead us from night.  
Lord, let us follow you from sorrow into light!

2 From days of old, through blind and willful ages,  
though we rebelled, you gently sought again,  
and spoke through saints, apostles, prophets, sages,  
who wrote with eager or reluctant pen.

## Refrain

3 Undimmed by time, those words are still revealing  
to sinful hearts your justice and your grace;  
and questing spirits, longing for your healing,  
see your compassion in the Savior's face.

## Refrain

4 To all the world your summons you are sending,  
through all the earth, to ev'ry land and race,  
that myriad tongues, in one great anthem blending,  
may praise and celebrate your gift of grace.

## Refrain

Text: Sarah E. Taylor, 1883-1954, alt.

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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.**

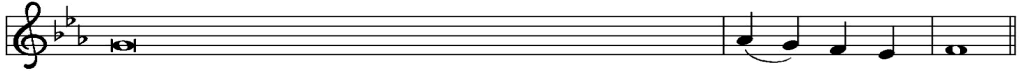
KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



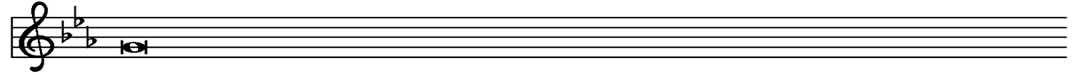
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



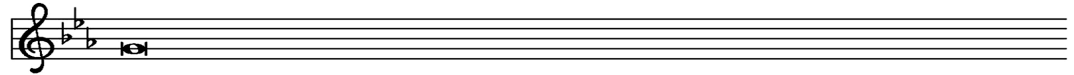
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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.

**Lord God, your lovingkindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen**

***We Listen to the Word***

**First Reading:**

**Isaiah 9:1-4**

A reading from Isaiah.

<sup>1</sup>There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time [the LORD] brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

<sup>2</sup>The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—  
on them light has shined.

<sup>3</sup>You have multiplied the nation,  
you have increased its joy;  
they rejoice before you  
as with joy at the harvest,  
as people exult when dividing plunder.

<sup>4</sup>For the yoke of their burden,  
and the bar across their shoulders,  
the rod of their oppressor,  
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

The word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

27:1,4-9

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?  
The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

<sup>4</sup>**One thing I ask of the LORD; one thing I seek; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life; to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God in the temple.**

<sup>5</sup>For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter, hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high up on a rock.

<sup>6</sup>**Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me. Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and make music to the LORD.**

<sup>7</sup>Hear my voice, O LORD, when I call; have mercy on me and answer me.

<sup>8</sup>**My heart speaks your message— “Seek my face.” Your face, O LORD, I will seek.**

<sup>9</sup>Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger.  
Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of my salvation.

**ANTHEM: Morning Prayer**

A reading from Corinthians.

<sup>10</sup>Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose. <sup>11</sup>For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. <sup>12</sup>What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." <sup>13</sup>Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? <sup>14</sup>I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, <sup>15</sup>so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. <sup>16</sup>(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) <sup>17</sup>For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power. <sup>18</sup>For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

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:**

**Matthew 4:12-23**

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew





C

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

<sup>12</sup>Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. <sup>13</sup>He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, <sup>14</sup>so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

<sup>15</sup>“Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles— <sup>16</sup>the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.” <sup>17</sup>From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” <sup>18</sup>As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. <sup>19</sup>And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.” <sup>20</sup>Immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>21</sup>As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. <sup>22</sup>Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him. <sup>23</sup>Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

**The Gospel of the Lord.**



C

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

# We Respond to the Word

\*Hymn of the Day: Will You Come and Follow Me

ELW 798

## Will You Come and Follow Me *The Summons*

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 - ers  
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 you let my  
Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do life at -  
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: KELVINGROVE, Scottish traditional

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## **\*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

Called together through water and the Word, we boldly pray for the church, the world, and all who long to hear God's voice.

*A brief silence.*

Holy One, your voice calls us to follow. Thank you for raising up missionaries in every generation (*especially Timothy, Titus, and Silas*) and for all who create communities of grace today. Open our hearts to serve you near and far. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Maker of all, we rejoice in the beauty and abundance of the earth. Unite us in our shared calling to be stewards of creation, to reduce waste, and to simplify our lives for your sake. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Ruler of all, thank you for those who run for local and national office, and all who serve as elected leaders. Gather wise and courageous voices together, that your mercy and justice would dawn upon all people and nations. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Healer of all, thank you for sanctuary and safety. Uplift all who live where fear governs and evil divides. Give refugees and all who seek safety a path toward hope and new life. Grant healing and wholeness to all who are sick, lonely, or grieving (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of courage, thank you for faithful teachers and evangelists in this and every place. Inspire our faith formation efforts with all generations as you call us to follow you. Bless our children, youth, and adults who engage in learning. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Risen Lord, we marvel at the meaning of your resurrection. Give us faith to place all hope in you as we give thanks for the faithful departed (*especially*). May their witness help us follow your call. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

We place our prayers before you, God, united in your Spirit; through your beloved Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **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: Meditation on "Dundee" arr. Albert Zabel

\*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.**



## Thy Strong Word



1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; at thy  
 2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, dark as  
 3 Thy strong Word be - speaks us righ - teous; bright with  
 4 From the cross thy wis - dom shin - ing break - eth



speaking it was done. For cre - at - ed light we  
 night and deep as death, broke the light of thy sal -  
 thine own ho - li - ness, glo - rious now, we press toward  
 forth in con - qu'ring might; from the cross for - ev - er



thank thee, while thine or - dered sea - sons run.  
 va - tion, breathed thine own life - breath - ing breath.  
 glo - ry, and our lives our hopes con - fess.  
 beam - eth all thy bright re - deem - ing light.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise to thee who light dost send!



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!

5 Give us lips to sing thy glory,  
 tongues thy mercy to proclaim,  
 throats that shout the hope that fills us,  
 mouths to speak thy holy name.  
 Alleluia! Alleluia!  
 May the light which thou dost send  
 fill our songs with alleluias,  
 alleluias without end!

6 God the Father, light-creator,  
 to thee laud and honor be.  
 To thee, Light of Light begotten,  
 praise be sung eternally.  
 Holy Spirit, light-revealer,  
 glory, glory be to thee.  
 Mortals, angels, now and ever  
 praise the holy Trinity!

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907–1976  
 Music: EBENEZER, Thomas J. Williams, 1869–1944  
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# **\*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](mailto:scustead@atlanticbb.net) or [ccustead@atlanticbb.net](mailto:ccustead@atlanticbb.net)

**While our pastors are away pastoral emergencies are being covered January 13 -26 by Pastor Barry Folmar of First Lutheran Church. His contact numbers are: office (942-3816) cell (814-404-6615).**

The church office email is [stjamesaltoona@gmail.com](mailto:stjamesaltoona@gmail.com) The church's website is [www.stjamesaltoona.org](http://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.\*\*\*\***



Mark Your Calendars

# EVENTS



**BULLETIN DEADLINE**  
**CHOIR PRACTICE**  
**BULLETIN DEADLINE**  
**CHOIR PRACTICE**  
**BULLETIN DEADLINE**  
**CHOIR PRACTICE**  
**KIRCHENBLATT ARTICLE DEADLINE**  
**BULLETIN DEADLINE**  
**CHOIR PRACTICE**  
**BULLETIN DEADLINE**  
**ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE**  
**CHOIR PRACTICE**  
**SWEETS AND TREATS**  
**CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING**

**JAN 28TH 10:30 AM**  
**JAN 30TH 7 PM**  
**FEB 4TH 10:30 AM**  
**FEB 6TH 7 PM**  
**FEB 11TH 10:30 AM**  
**FEB 13TH 7 PM**  
**FEB 15TH 12 PM**  
**FEB 18TH 10:30 AM**  
**FEB 20TH 7 PM**  
**FEB 25TH 10:30 AM**  
**FEB 26TH 12 PM**  
**FEB 27TH 7 PM**  
**MAR 1ST 10 AM**  
**MAR 8TH 12 PM**

## **Our Prayer List:**

Tim Surkovich      Joe Yanke      Sylvia Malsatzki      Patti Green

(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

### **Allegheny Lutheran Home:**

Janet Kauffman

### **In their own homes:**

Deborah Manbeck

Glenn Dell

John Wiederkehr



# **SWEETS AND TREATS**

## **THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH.**



**OUR NEXT SWEETS AND TREATS  
WILL BE  
March 1st**

**We will NOT be having Sweets and Treats in  
January and February**

\* We are always looking for volunteers to sponsor Sweets and Treats. If you're interested there is a sign up sheet in the Sunday School Room. Your support is appreciated!



**Council Meetings will NOT be held in  
January and February the next meeting  
will be in March following worship.**

**Next meeting:**

**March 8th**



**St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church**

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