

# St. James Evangelical **Lutheran Church** May 8, 2022 **Fourth Sunday of** Easter

**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 quest book.

We celebrate the Lord's supper and invite all baptized Christians to share in this Holy Feast.

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: I Come, O Savior Arr. Hugo Gehrke

(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.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

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.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, and Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.** 

\*GATHERING SONG: NEXT PAGE Glorious Things of You Are Spoken

ELW 647

#### Glorious Things of You Are Spoken



Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt. Music: BLAENWERN, William P. Rowlands, 1860–1937

#### \*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.



# Glory to God



#### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY:

P: Let us pray.

ALL: O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

### We Listen to the Word

First Reading: Acts 9:36-43

A reading from Acts.

<sup>36</sup>Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. <sup>37</sup>At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. <sup>38</sup>Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." <sup>39</sup>So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. <sup>40</sup>Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. <sup>41</sup>He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. <sup>42</sup>This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. <sup>43</sup>Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 23

<sup>4</sup>Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

<sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

<sup>6</sup>Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

## **Second Reading:**

Revelation 7:9-17

A reading from Revelation.

<sup>9</sup>After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. <sup>10</sup>They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

<sup>11</sup>And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, <sup>12</sup>singing,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>You restore my soul, O LORD, and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

- <sup>13</sup>Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" <sup>14</sup>I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.
- <sup>15</sup>For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

<sup>16</sup>They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat;

<sup>17</sup>for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

#### \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION





You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Al - le - lu -

ia.

\*GOSPEL:
The Holy Gospel according to John.

John 10:22-30



<sup>22</sup>At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, <sup>23</sup>and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. <sup>24</sup>So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." <sup>25</sup>Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; <sup>26</sup>but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. <sup>27</sup>My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. <sup>28</sup>I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. <sup>29</sup>What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. <sup>30</sup>The Father and I are one."

#### The Gospel of the Lord.



Sermon

# We Respond to the Word

\*Hymn of the Day: Savior, like A Shepherd Lead Us

**ELW 789** 

## Savior, like A Shepherd Lead Us



Text: attr. Dorothy A. Thrupp, 1779–1847 Music: BRADBURY, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

### \*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.

## \*Sharing of the Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

# We Offer Our Gifts

# \*Offering Prayer:

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts; ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Use us and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the One who gave Himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

#### C: Amen.

## **Prayers of Intercession**

Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation.

#### A brief silence.

Gentle Shepherd, enable your church to respond to the voice of Jesus. Give us unfailing trust, unafraid to join in Jesus' work of renewing all things. God, in your mercy,

#### hear our prayer.

Feed your people at the table of creation. Prepare a safe place for those whose environments are dangerous or unhealthy, especially those making difficult journeys. Prosper your creation for the sake of every living thing. God, in your mercy,

#### hear our prayer.

Warm the hearts of all who celebrate and all who mourn on Mother's Day. Accompany those yearning to be mothers. Help us to heal from broken family relationships and open us to receive your nurturing love from all who serve mothering roles in our lives (*especially*). God, in your mercy,

#### hear our prayer.

Seek out those who weep while they await healing or consolation (*especially*). Set people in their path who can provide the care they need, and wipe away every tear from their eyes. God, in your mercy,

### hear our prayer.

Inspire the words of prophets and saints who employ innovative imagery to stretch our understanding (as did Julian of Norwich, whom we commemorate today). Send Christ to instruct us with motherly care. God, in your mercy,

### hear our prayer.

#### Here other intercessions may be offered.

Enfold us in the great multitude of saints from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages. Wash us in your saving grace every day, guiding us to your waters of life. God, in your mercy,

### hear our prayer.

In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life -giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

#### 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 Lords' face shines on you with grace and mercy. 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: (next page)

Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!

**ELW 377** 

\*Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Recessional:

Toccata

Robert W. Thygerson

#### Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!



Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926 Music: David N. Johnson, 1922–1987 Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

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#### IN THE CASE OF A PASTORAL EMERGENCY,

In the event of a Pastoral Emergency, please contact Pastor Dave Bowman Phone: 814-696-0091 Cell: 814-330-8025

The church office email is <a href="mailto:stjamesaltoona@gmail.com">stjamesaltoona@gmail.com</a> The church's website is <a href="mailto:swww.stjamesaltoona.org">www.stjamesaltoona.org</a> 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.\*\*\*\*





# NEXT CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

June 12th 12 PM



SWEETS AND TREATS
THE FIRST SUNDAY OF
EACH MONTH WILL START
AGAIN IN MAY OF 2022.

The next Sweets and Treats is June 5, 2022



OUR POTLUCK DINNERS WILL BEGIN AGAIN IN MAY OF 2022.

The next Potluck Dinner is May 22, 2022

**Our Prayer List:** 

Pastor Scott Tim Surkovich Debbie Thomas Bob Hench
Donna Wilt Peggy Thatcher Jane Helmers Carol Weaver

Carolyn Feather

(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 Homewood

Robert Civils Sylvia Malsatzki

Allegheny Lutheran Home: In their own homes:

Janet Kauffman Deborah Manbeck

# **Worship Guidelines**

The council decided to follow the new CDC guidelines, so for fully vaccinated people, wearing masks is optional but encouraged.







# WELCA NEWS

Let's face it, the pandemic has affected every part of our lives, including WELCA. We haven't disappeared or given up on our work for the church. We are in the planning stages for upcoming events and activities. Watch the bulletins, newsletters and website for more news.

To help fulfill our mission WELCA is looking for new members. If you or someone you know would like to join us contact Peggy Thatcher or Donna Wilt.



# **CHURCH PICNIC**

Planning for the church picnic has begun. You can use the sign up sheet on the stand in the narthex or on the foyer bulletin board. Or use the sheet on the next page.

Church Picnic will be held June 26, 2022 at Highland Park, Pavilion #1



# St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.