



**St. James Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
August 7, 2022  
9th Sunday after  
Pentecost  
Communion**

**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.***

**Pulpit: Roger Glad  
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: Whence Comes This Bright Celestial Light Arr. Fred B. Binckes  
*(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.**

*We Gather*

\*GATHERING SONG: God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens ELW 771

NEXT PAGE

# God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens



1 God, who stretched the span - gled heav - ens in - fi - nite in time and place,  
2 We have ven - tured worlds un - dreamed of since the child-hood of our race;  
3 As each far ho - ri - zon beck - ons, may it chal-lenge us a - new:



flung the suns in burn-ing ra - diance through the si - lent fields of space:  
known the ec - sta - sy of wing-ing through un - trav-eled realms of space;  
chil - dren of cre - a - tive pur - pose, serv - ing oth - ers, hon - 'ring you.



we, your chil - dren in your like-ness, share in - ven - tive pow'rs with you;  
probed the se - crets of the at - om, yield-ing un - i - mag - ined pow'r,  
May our dreams prove rich with prom-ise; each en-deav-or well be - gun;



great Cre - a - tor, still cre - at - ing, show us what we yet may do.  
fac - ing us with life's de - struc - tion or our most tri - um - phant hour.  
great Cre - a - tor, give us guid - ance till our goals and yours are one.

Text: Catherine Cameron, b. 1927

Music: HOLY MANNA, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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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.

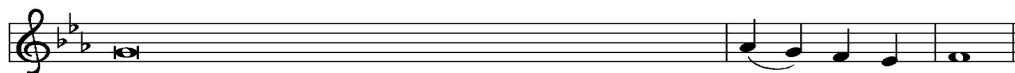
KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



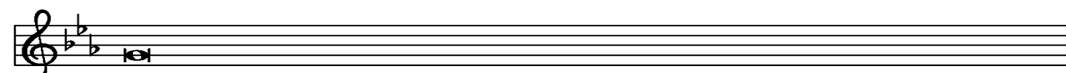
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



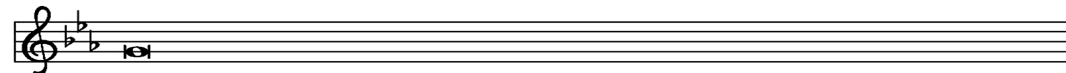
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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.

# \*CANTICLE OF PRAISE

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb



God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,

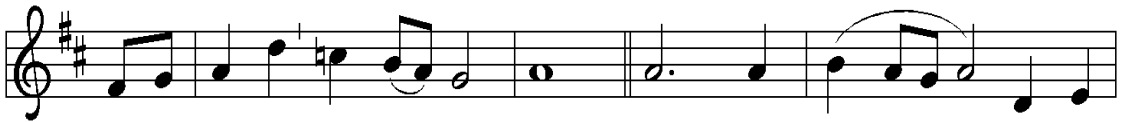


glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was



slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

*Final refrain*



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

\*PRAYER OF THE DAY:

P: Let us pray.

**Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen**

### *We Listen to the Word*

**First Reading:**

**Genesis 15:1-6**

A reading from Genesis.

<sup>1</sup>After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." <sup>2</sup>But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" <sup>3</sup>And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." <sup>4</sup>But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." <sup>5</sup>He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." <sup>6</sup>And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

The word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

Psalm 33:12-22

<sup>12</sup>Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD! Happy the people chosen to be God's heritage!

<sup>13</sup>**The LORD looks down from heaven, and sees all humankind.**

<sup>14</sup>God sits firmly enthroned and watches all who dwell on the earth.

<sup>15</sup>**God fashions all their hearts and observes all their deeds.**

<sup>16</sup>A king is not saved by the size of the army, nor are warriors rescued by their great strength.

<sup>17</sup>**The horse gives vain hope for victory; despite its great strength it cannot save.**

<sup>18</sup>Truly, your eye is upon those who fear you, O LORD, upon those who wait for your steadfast love,

<sup>19</sup>**to deliver their lives from death, and to keep them alive in time of famine.**

<sup>20</sup>Our innermost being waits for you, O LORD, our helper and our shield.

<sup>21</sup>**Surely, our heart rejoices in you, for in your holy name we put our trust.**

<sup>22</sup>Let your lovingkindness, O LORD, be upon us, even as we place our hope in you.

SOLO

May You Always Have A Song

Bob Hench



## Second Reading:

## Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

A reading from Hebrews.

<sup>1</sup>Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. <sup>2</sup>Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. <sup>3</sup>By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

<sup>8</sup>By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. <sup>9</sup>By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. <sup>10</sup>For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. <sup>11</sup>By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. <sup>12</sup>Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, “as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.”

<sup>13</sup>All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, <sup>14</sup>for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. <sup>15</sup>If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. <sup>16</sup>But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



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

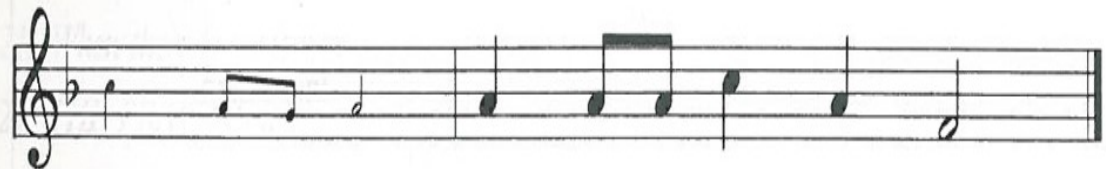


You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

**\*GOSPEL:**

**Luke 12:32-40**

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] <sup>32</sup>“Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. <sup>33</sup>Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys.

<sup>34</sup>For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

<sup>35</sup>“Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; <sup>36</sup>be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks.

<sup>37</sup>Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. <sup>38</sup>If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

<sup>39</sup>“But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>40</sup>You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

## The Gospel of the Lord.

A musical score for the phrase "Praise to you, O Christ." The notation is on a single staff with a treble clef and a common time signature (C). The melody consists of the following notes: a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, and a half note F4. The lyrics "Praise to you, O Christ." are written below the staff, with "Praise" under the first note, "to you," under the second and third notes, "O" under the fourth note, and "Christ." under the fifth note.

Sermon

## *We Respond to the Word*

\*Hymn of the Day:

ELW 764

### **Have No Fear, Little Flock**

- 1 Have no fear, little flock;  
have no fear, little flock,  
for the Father has chosen  
to give you the kingdom;  
have no fear, little flock!
- 2 Have good cheer, little flock;  
have good cheer, little flock,  
for the Father will keep you  
in his love forever;  
have good cheer, little flock!
- 3 Praise the Lord high above;  
praise the Lord high above,  
for he stoops down to heal you,  
uplift and restore you;  
praise the Lord high above!
- 4 Thankful hearts raise to God;  
thankful hearts raise to God,  
for he stays close beside you,  
in all things works with you;  
thankful hearts raise to God!

Text: Luke 12:32, st. 1; Marjorie Jilson, b. 1931, sts. 2-4  
Text © 1973 Concordia Publishing House

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## **\*Creed**

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation**

**he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,\*  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## Prayers of Intercession

Trusting in God's extraordinary love, let us come near to the Holy One in prayer.

*A brief silence.*

Let your lovingkindness be upon your church. Fill all who proclaim the gospel with your Spirit. Equip your flock to speak your word of promise and hope in the midst of fear and uncertainty. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Let your lovingkindness be upon your creation. Dwell among us and sustain our earthly home. In places of famine, provide nourishment. In places of plenty, fashion us to be good stewards of your bounty. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Let your lovingkindness be upon your world. Be our helper and our shield in places torn by strife and violence (*especially*). Raise up courageous leaders to govern with compassion and justice. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Let your lovingkindness be upon your children. Look upon all who wait for your steadfast love. Console those who grieve and embrace those who cry out to you (*especially*). Help us to trust your promise and not be afraid. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Let your lovingkindness be upon this community. Fashion our hearts to strive for the way of peace. Strengthen the outreach ministries of this congregation (*specific ministries may be named*) and all who care for those in need. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

With thanksgiving we remember all who have died in faith and now rest in you. As they placed their hope in you, so strengthen us to trust in your promise of new life. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Receive the prayers of your children, merciful God, and hold us forever in your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ, our holy Wisdom.

**Amen.**

\*Sharing of the Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

## *We Offer Our Gifts*

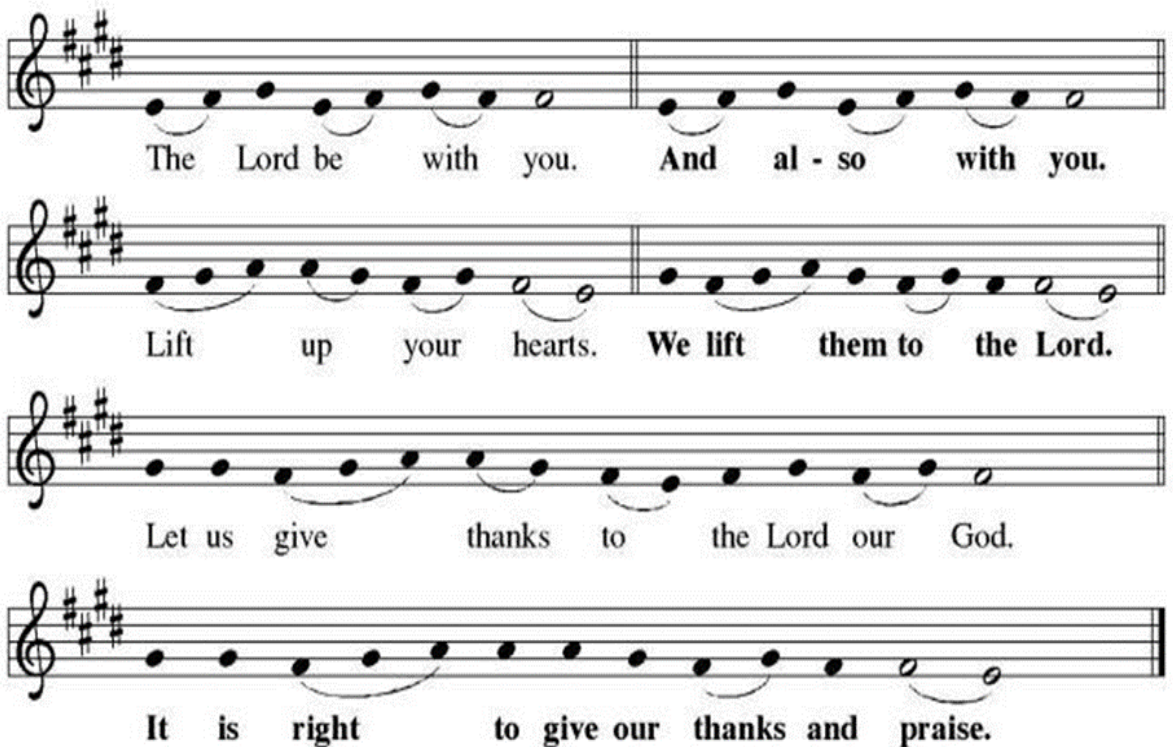
\*Offering Prayer:

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, 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.**

## *We Share the Feast*

\*Holy Communion



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.





## \*Thanksgiving at the Table

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish but have eternal life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we might receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

Today we receive the Holy Eucharist through elements that have been pre-consecrated on this altar by Pastor Folmar.

In the sacrament of the Holy Eucharist we are told that on the night in which he was betrayed our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it, gave it for all to eat saying, "This is my body given for you, do this for the remembrance of me". Again after supper, we are told, that he took the cup, gave thanks, gave it for all to drink saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sins, do this for the remembrance of me". For as often as we eat this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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

**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.**

\*Invitation to Communion

P: Reveal yourself to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread, as you once revealed yourself to your disciples.

## Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Communion Distribution—The Communion cups are opened at this time. Remove the Communion wafer from the cup—**P**: Body of Christ given for you.

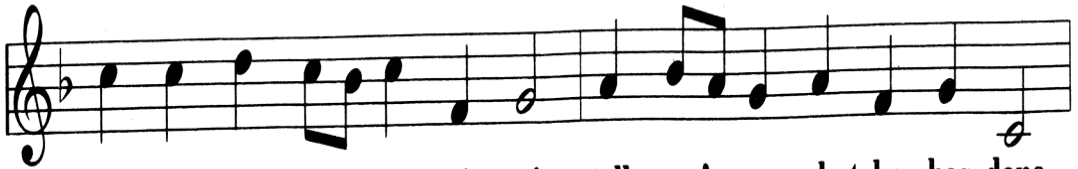
Remove wrapper from Wine cup—**P**: Blood of Christ shed for you.

\*Post-Communion Blessing

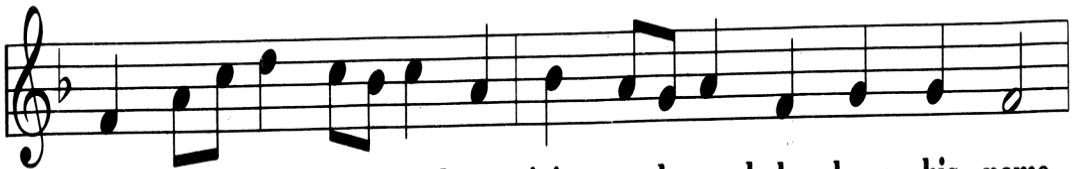
P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C: Amen**

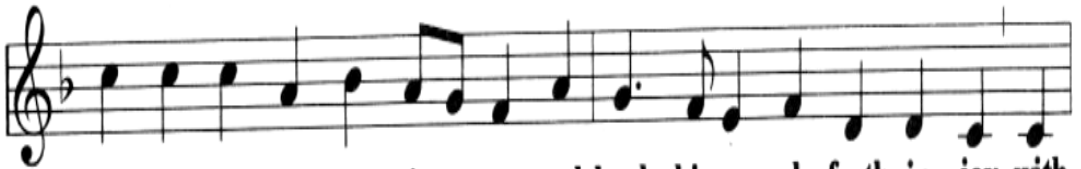
\*Song after Communion:



☐ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud - ly bear his name.



He re - calls his prom - is - es and leads his peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing, Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## **\*Prayer after Communion**

**P:** Let us pray.

Life-giving God, through this meal you have bandaged our wounds and fed us with your mercy. Now send us forth to live for others, both friend and stranger, that all may come to know your love. This we pray in the name of Jesus.

**C: Amen.**

## ***We Are Sent***

### **\*Blessing**

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine 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:           Strengthen For Service, Lord                           ELW 497  
*NEXT PAGE*

### **\*Dismissal**

**P:** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

Recessional:               Strengthen For Service               Arr. Fredrick Marberg

# Strengthen for Service, Lord



1 Streng-then for ser-vice, Lord, the hands that ho-ly  
2 The tongues that sang your ho-ly name now purge of  
3 And may the feet that walked your courts be nev-er



things have ta-ken; and let the ears that heard your  
all de-cep-tion; keep bright the eyes that saw your  
lured to wan-der; but lead the faith-ful nour-ished



word to false-hood nev-er wak-en.  
love and sharp-en their per-cep-tion.  
here to jour-ney on in splen-dor.

Text: Syriac Liturgy of Malabar; tr. composite  
Music: BUCKHURST RUN, Robert A. Hobby, b. 1962  
Music © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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**Please sign the card for Former Pastor Jim Rill located in the Narthax. Donna Wilt will pick it up tomorrow morning and mail it for his “Celebration of Life Ceremony” Thank You**

# CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **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 [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. \*\*\*\***



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**The next Potluck  
Dinner is  
September 18, 2022**

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**SWEETS AND TREATS**



**The next  
Sweets and Treats is  
October 2, 2022**



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**NEXT CHURCH COUNCIL  
MEETING**

**October 9th 12 PM**

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### Our Prayer List:

Pastor Scott  
Donna Wilt  
Carolyn Feather

Tim Surkovich  
Jane Helmers

Debbie Thomas  
Carol Weaver

Jeff Bickel  
Mark Hoover

(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

#### **Homewood**

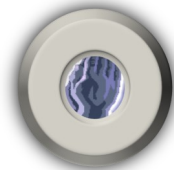
Sylvia Malsatzki

#### **Allegheny Lutheran Home:**

Janet Kauffman

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

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.



We hope you'll join us for Lutheran Day at the Altoona Curve. Please click the link below for the registration form.

<https://www.alleghenysynod.org/single-post/lutheran-day-at-the-altoona-curve>

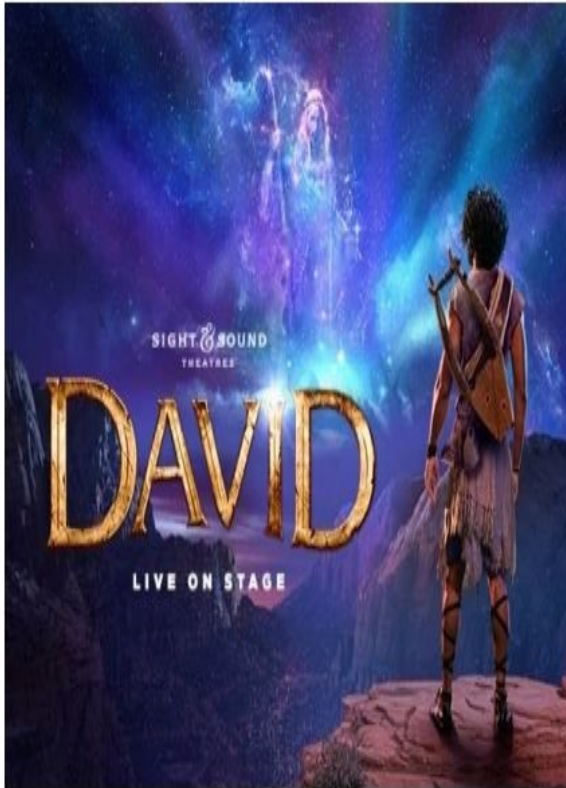
**Lutheran Day**  
**at the**  
**Altoona Curve**

**Sunday, August 21st**

**Tailgate at the Allegheny Synod Office**  
**4:00pm**  
Hot Dogs and Drinks provided.  
Bring a side to share!  
**Game Begins at 6:00pm**  
Fireworks following the game.

**Tickets - \$7/each**

**Please Register with the Synod Office by Monday, August 15th.**



## Sight and Sound Bus Excursion to see *David!*

Join the Lutheran Churches of Blair County for this exciting excursion to see Sight & Sounds live on stage production of *David* on Wednesday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022. **Price per individual will be \$155.** *This will include your transportation, your ticket to a 11am show, and a meal at Hershey Farms.*

There will be two locations to which you can arrive for the bus: Lowes Parking Lot in Altoona at 6:30am or Walmart Parking Lot in East Freedom at 6:45am (we will have a sign-up sheet and plan to seat you accordingly by church group). We hope to arrive back within the area sometime around 7:30pm.

*Payments/Reservations can be made at Raystown Transit (1117 Logan Blvd, Altoona, PA 16602 OR 814-944-2585). Deadline for Payments/Reservations is September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022.*



# ***Christian Revival***



**Beechwood Park  
Coalport, PA**

*August 12th 6pm to 9pm  
August 13th 1pm to 9pm*

Variety of speakers and musical groups  
Free Hot Dogs, chips and soda on Saturday

*Featured Performance by  
Final Harvest  
Saturday August 13th at 7pm*

PROCLAIMING GOD'S LAST CALL FOR HIS FINAL HARVEST

*Final  
Harvest*



# *St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church*

**1407 Eighth Avenue  
Altoona, PA 16602**

**814-944-6835**

**[stjamesaltoona@gmail.com](mailto:stjamesaltoona@gmail.com)**

**[www.stjamesaltoona.org](http://www.stjamesaltoona.org)**



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