



**St. James Evangelical
Lutheran Church
January 15, 2023
2nd 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.

**Vice Pastor: Pastor Drew McCaffrey
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

(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.

Most 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. As a called ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

We Gather

*GATHERING SONG:

Arise, Your Light Has Come!

ELW 314

NEXT PAGE

Arise, Your Light Has Come!

1 A - rise, your light has come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;
2 A - rise, your light has come! Fling wide the pris - on door;
3 A - rise, your light has come! All you in sor - row born,
4 A - rise, your light has come! The moun-tains burst in song!

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff, both in the key of D major (two sharps). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are placed between the two staves.

show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day.
pro - claim the cap - tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.
bind up the bro - ken - heart-ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
Rise up like ea - gles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

The second system of musical notation continues the melody and bass line from the first system. It also consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff in D major. The lyrics are placed between the two staves.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825-1893

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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.

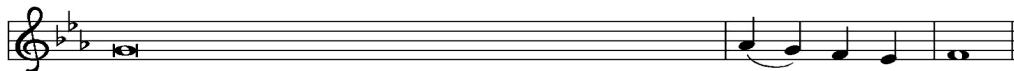
KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



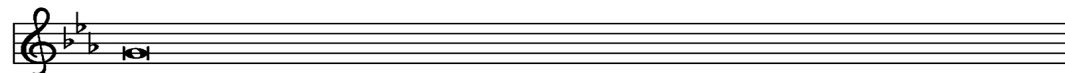
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



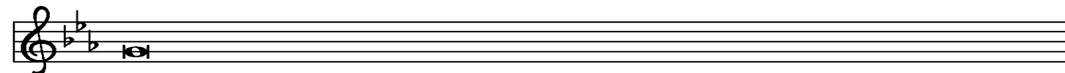
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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.

Holy God, our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

We Listen to the Word

First Reading:

Isaiah 49:1-7

A reading from Isaiah.

¹Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away! The LORD called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb he named me.

²He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away.

³And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified."

⁴But I said, "I have labored in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the LORD, and my reward with my God."

⁵And now the LORD says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honored in the sight of the LORD, and my God has become my strength—

⁶he says,

"It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

⁷Thus says the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers,

"Kings shall see and stand up, princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 40:1-11

¹I waited patiently upon the LORD, who stooped to me and heard my cry.

²**The LORD lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a high cliff, making my footing sure.**

³The LORD put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God; many shall see, and stand in awe, and put their trust in the LORD.

⁴**Happy are they who trust in the LORD! They do not turn to enemies or to those who follow lies.**

⁵Great are the wonders you have done, O LORD my God! In your plans for us, none can be compared with you! Oh, that I could make them known and tell them! But they are more than I can count.

⁶**Sacrifice and offering you do not desire; you have opened my ears: burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required.**

⁷And so I said, "Here I am; I come. In the scroll of the book it is written of me:

⁸**'I love to do your will, O my God; your law is deep within me.'**"

⁹I proclaimed righteousness in the great assembly; I have not restrained my lips, O LORD, you know.

¹⁰**I have not hidden your righteousness in my heart; I have spoken of your faithfulness and your deliverance; I have not concealed your steadfast love and truth from the great assembly.**

¹¹You are the LORD; do not withhold your compassion from me; may your steadfast love and your truth continually keep me safe.

Second Reading:

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

¹Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,

²To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—⁶just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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:**

John 1:29-42

The Holy Gospel according to John.



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

²⁹[John the Baptist] saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, “Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!”³⁰ This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.’³¹ I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.”³² And John testified, “I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him.”³³ I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’³⁴ And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God.”

³⁵The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples,³⁶ and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, “Look, here is the Lamb of God!”³⁷ The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus.

³⁸When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, “What are you looking for?” They said to him, “Rabbi” (which translated means Teacher), “where are you staying?”³⁹ He said to them, “Come and see.” They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o’clock in the afternoon.⁴⁰ One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother.

⁴¹He first found his brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated Anointed).⁴² He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, “You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas” (which is translated Peter).

The Gospel of the Lord.



We Respond to the Word

*Hymn of the Day:

ELW 553

Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies



1 Christ, whose glo - ry fills the skies, Christ, the true and on - ly light,
2 Dark and cheer-less is the morn un - ac - com - pa - nied by thee;
3 Vis - it then this soul of mine, pierce the gloom of sin and grief;



Sun of righ-teous-ness, a - rise, tri - umph o'er the shades of night;
joy-less is the day's re - turn, till thy mer-cy's beams I see,
fill me, ra - dian - cy di - vine, scat - ter all my un - be - lief;



Day-spring from on high, be near; Day-star, in my heart ap - pear.
till they in - ward light im - part, glad my eyes, and warm my heart.
more and more thy - self dis - play, shin - ing to the per - fect day.



Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

Music: RATISBON, J. G. Werner, *Choralbuch*, 1815

***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

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Put a new song in the mouth of your church. Inspire the baptized to tell of your faithfulness, sharing the good news of your salvation throughout the earth. Bless the witness of missionaries (*synodical mission starts and missionaries supported by the congregation may be named*). Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

The waters of baptism call us into life in the Spirit. Preserve the world's waters: protect them from pollution, support plants and animals who depend on them, and bring rain in places of drought. Guide us in protecting local waterways (*especially*) and in responding to devastating floods. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

In Jesus you are the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Show your mercy to all nations. Direct leaders to do your will; fill governing bodies with righteousness; equip judges with discernment and compassion. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You incline your ear to all who cry to you. Draw near to individuals and communities suffering violence, injustice, illness, or poverty. Hide them in the shadow of your hand and make us signs of your faithfulness to all in need (*We pray especially for . . .*). Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You are glorified in the servants you have called. With Martin Luther King Jr., give us bold trust in you. Even when it feels like a sharp sword or polished arrow, give us courage to receive your call to repentance and racial justice. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

In every place and time, you have sanctified your people. We praise you for the testimony of those who have died in the faith. Strengthen us as we wait for the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified.

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'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:
NEXT PAGE

Hail to the Lord's Anointed

ELW 311

*Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Recessional

Hail to the Lord's Anointed



1 Hail to the Lord's a - noint - ed, great Da - vid's great - er Son!
 2 You come with res - cue speed - y to those who suf - fer wrong,
 3 You shall come down like show - ers up - on the fruit - ful earth;
 4 Kings shall fall down be - fore you, and gold and in - cense bring;



Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, your reign on earth be - gun!
 to help the poor and need - y, and bid the weak be strong;
 love, joy, and hope, like flow - ers, spring in your path to birth.
 all na - tions shall a - dore you, your praise all peo - ple sing.



You come to break op - pres - sion, to set the cap - tive
 to give them songs for sigh - ing, their dark - ness turn to
 Be - fore you on the moun - tains shall peace, the her - ald,
 To you shall prayer un - ceas - ing and dai - ly vows as -



free, to take a - way trans - gres - sion and
 light, whose souls, con - demned and dy - ing, are
 go; and righ - teous - ness in foun - tains from
 cend; your king - dom still in - creas - ing, a



rule in eq - ui - ty.
 pre - cious in your sight.
 hill to val - ley flow.
 king - dom with out end.

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 The church's
website is www.stjamesaltoona.org

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

Our Prayer List:

Tim Surkovich

Debbie Thomas

Jeff Bickel

Steve Ligthner

Carol Weaver

Donna Foster

Jean Bickel

Donna Wilt

Carolyn Feather

Bill Dambeck

Judy Dambeck

Bill Wilt

(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

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.

WHAT'S HAPPENING!!



NEXT CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

March 19, 2023

SWEETS



TREATS

SWEETS AND TREATS THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH.

OUR NEXT SWEETS AND TREATS
WILL BE

March 5, 2023

* 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!



POTLUCK DINNER

The next Potluck Dinner is

March 12, 2023



Synod Assembly Nominations

Where is the Holy Spirit calling you?

Prayerfully consider how you can serve your Synod

Synod Council

2 Year Term: 1 Lay Male, 1 Youth (Age 15-18)

3 Year Term: 1 Lay Female, 1 Lay Male, 1 Clergy

Discipline Committee

4 Year Term: 1 Lay Male

5 Year Term: 1 Lay Female, 2 Clergy Female

6 Year Term: 1 Lay Female, 1 Clergy Male

Consultation Committee

3 Year Term: 1 Clergy Female

5 Year Term: 1 Clergy Male

6 Year Term: 1 Lay Female

Mission Endowment Committee

3 Yr. Term: 2 Clergy/Lay, Male or Female

**For further questions or information about the various positions,
please contact Pastor Drew McCaffery
(pastordrew0604@gmail.com)**

Duties of respective committees

Synod Council (3 Yr. Term by Assembly Vote, Youth-2 Yr Term)
Each person elected to the Synod Council shall be a voting member of a congregation of this synod, with the exception of ordained ministers on the roster of this synod who reside outside the territory of this synod. The process for election and the term of office when not otherwise provided shall be specified in the bylaws. A member of the Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, unless otherwise elected as a voting member of the Synod Council, may serve as an advisory member of the Synod Council with voice but not vote. Meetings are held Bi-Monthly (every other month) or if a special meeting is called by Bishop and/or council members.

Consultation Committee (6 Yr. Term by Assembly Vote)
The Consultation Committee of this synod shall consist of at least six persons and not more than 12 persons, of whom half shall be ordained ministers and half shall be laypersons, who shall each be elected by the Synod Assembly for a term of six years without consecutive reelection. The functions of the Consultation Committee are set forth in Chapter 20 of the Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and in Chapter 17 of this Constitution. The size of the Consultation Committee, in accord with this provision, shall be defined in this synod's bylaws. Committee is on call at the request of the Bishop.

Discipline Committee (6 Yr Term by Assembly Vote)
From the ELCA Constitution: There shall be set forth in the bylaws a process of discipline governing officers, ministers of Word and Sacrament, ministers of Word and Service, congregations, and members of congregations. Except as provided in 20.18. or 20.19., such process shall assure due process and due protection for the accused, other parties, and this church. Since synods have responsibility for admittance of persons into the rostered ministries of this church and have oversight of pastoral and congregational relationships, the disciplinary process shall be a responsibility of the synod on behalf of this church. Committee is on call at the request of the Bishop.

Thirty-Fifth Annual Allegheny Synod Assembly

NOMINATIONS FORM

June 17th, 2023

Please "X" below all positions of interest. (Number) = Number Elected for that position

<p><u>Synod Council - 3 Yr. Term</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Lay Female (1) <input type="checkbox"/> Lay Male (1) <input type="checkbox"/> Clergy – Male or Female (1)</p> <p><u>Synod Council-2 Yr. Term</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Lay Male (1)* <input type="checkbox"/> Youth-Age 15-18 (1)</p> <p><u>Consultation – 6 Yr. Term:</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Lay Female (1)</p> <p><u>Consultation – 5 Yr. Term:</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Clergy – Male (1)*</p> <p><u>Consultation – 3 Yr. Term:</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Clergy Female (1)*</p>	<p><u>Discipline – 6 Yr. Term:</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Lay Female (1) <input type="checkbox"/> Clergy Male (1)</p> <p><u>Discipline – 5 Yr. Term:</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Lay Female (1)* <input type="checkbox"/> Clergy Female (2)*</p> <p><u>Discipline – 4 Yr. Term:</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Lay Male (1)*</p> <p><u>Mission Endowment Fund Committee:</u> <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Yr. Term (2) Clergy/Lay – Male or Female</p> <p><i>*Terms have been adjusted due to no fulfillments in previous assembly election(s)</i></p>	INSERT DIGITAL PHOHERE
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Last Name:	First Name:	Middle Int.:
Street Address:	City/State/Zip:	
Telephone:	Email:	
Congregation:	Congregation	
Current Occupation:	Previous Occupation:	
Year of Birth:	Education:	
Church Service Position / Years of Service <i>(Please print legibly or type if not completed online. List no more than 5):</i>		
Significant Community Service <i>(Please print legibly or type if not completed online. List no more than 3):</i>		
In 100 words or less, describe your unique talents that you could contribute to the position(s) of interest above. <i>(Please print legibly or type if not completed online.)</i>		
Are you willing and able to fulfill the duties of this position? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, with the help of God		

The Nominations form must be completed by **April 24th, 2023** to be included in the Assembly packet. Any received after that date (up until 4PM Monday, April 24th, 2023) will be uploaded digitally at the Assembly.

Please send completed form with picture to the Allegheny Synod, ELCA, Attention: Pr. Drew McCaffery, Nominations Chair, 701 Quail Avenue., Altoona, PA 126602 or email to via email to pastordrew0604@gmail.com with Attention: Pr. Drew McCaffery, Nominations Chair.

*St. James Evangelical
Lutheran Church*

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**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.