



**St. James Evangelical
Lutheran Church
January 22, 2023
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.***

**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:

Thy Strong Word

ELW 511

NEXT PAGE

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



speak - ing 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!

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907–1976

Music: EBENEZER, Thomas J. Williams, 1869–1944

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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.

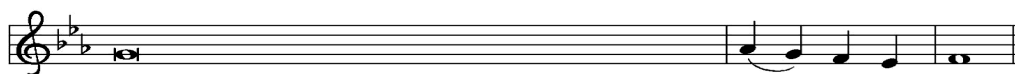
KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



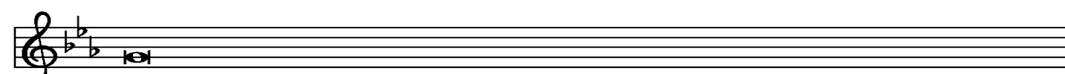
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



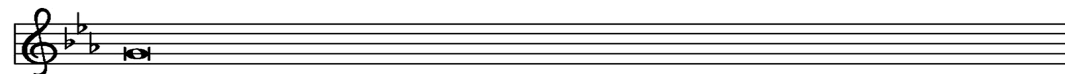
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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.

¹There 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.

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

³You 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.

⁴For 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

Psalm 27:1, 4-9

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

⁴**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.**

⁵For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter, hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high upon a rock.

⁶**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.**

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

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

⁹Hide 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.

Second Reading:

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

¹⁰Now 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. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. ¹²What 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.” ¹³Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For 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.

¹⁸For 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.



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

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

¹⁵“Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—

¹⁶the 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.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

¹⁸As 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. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹As 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. ²²Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

²³Jesus 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.



We Respond to the Word

*Hymn of the Day:

ELW 817

You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore



1 You have come down to the lake - shore seek - ing
2 You know full well what I have, Lord: nei - ther
3 You need my hands, my ex - haus - tion, work - ing
4 You who have fished oth - er wa - ters; you, the



nei - ther the wise nor the wealth - y, but on - ly
trea - sure nor wea - pons for con - quest, just these my
love for the rest of the wea - ry— a love that's
long - ing of souls that are yearn - ing: O lov - ing



ask - ing for me to fol - low.
fish nets and will for work - ing.
will - ing to go on lov - ing.
Friend, you have come to call me.

Refrain / Estribillo



Sweet Lord, you have looked in - to my eyes; kind-ly smil - ing,



you've called out my name. . . . On the sand I have a-ban-doned my



small boat; now with you, I will seek oth - er seas.

Text: Cesáreo Gabaráin, 1936–1991; tr. Madeleine Forell Marshall, b. 1946

Music: PESCADOR DE HOMBRES, Cesáreo Gabaráin

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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.**

***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.

Make your church one in purpose, proclaiming the message of the cross. Help us to work together across differences. Energize ecumenical partnerships, including the World Council of Churches and Lutheran World Federation (*other ecumenical ministries in which the congregation takes part may be named*).

Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

We rejoice at the bounty of your creation. Fill the land and sea with your abundance. Bless harvests in the southern hemisphere and fallow fields in the northern hemisphere. Equip farmers to till and keep the earth sustainably.

Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

In Christ your reign comes near and calls all to repentance. Break the rod of the oppressor in every nation. Dispel the shadow of death in places of war and persecution. Grant us leaders who lift the yokes that burden those in need.

Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Be a stronghold for those in trouble and a rock for all who are afraid. Rouse communities to care for neighbors who need shelter, are facing maltreatment, or are isolated and lonely. (*Especially we pray for . . .*) Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Sustain the ministries of this congregation and all churches in this community (*neighboring congregations may be named*). Nurture each congregation's unique witness to your presence; foster mutual respect; inspire our cooperation in loving our neighbors. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We praise you for the faithful who have gone ahead of us, both famous and unknown. Help us to leave our nets and follow, and bring us with them to the fullness of your promise of eternal life. 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:

Shine, Jesus, Shine

ELW 671

NEXT PAGE

*Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Recessional

Shine, Jesus, Shine

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Refrain

Shine, Je - sus, shine, fill this land with the Fa - ther's glo - ry;
 blaze, Spir - it, blaze, set our hearts on fire.
 Flow, riv - er, flow, flood the na - tions with grace and mer - cy;
 send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!

1 Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing, in the midst of the
 2 As we gaze on your king - ly bright-ness, so our fac - es dis -

dark - ness, shin - ing; Je - sus, light of the world, shine up - on us,
 play your like - ness, ev - er chang - ing from glo - ry to glo - ry,
 set us free, by the truth you now bring us.
 mir - rored here, may our lives tell your sto - ry.

Refrain

Shine on me, shine on me:
 Shine on me, shine on me:

Text: Graham Kendrick, b. 1950

Music: Graham Kendrick

Text and music © 1987 Make Way Music, admin. Music Services in the Western Hemisphere

SHINE, JESUS, SHINE
9 9 10 10 3 3 and refrain

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

IN THE CASE OF A PASTORAL EMERGENCY,

In the event of a Pastoral Emergency, please contact Pastor Drew McCaffery

Work: 814-944-7560 Cell: 814-538-9036

Email: pastordrew0604@gmail.com

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 Lighthner

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 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!



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

June 17th, 2023

NOMINATIONS FORM

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

<u>Synod Council - 3 Yr. Term</u> ____ Lay Female (1) ____ Lay Male (1) ____ Clergy - Male or Female (1) <u>Synod Council-2 Yr. Term</u> ____ Lay Male (1)* ____ Youth-Age 15-18 (1) <u>Consultation - 6 Yr. Term:</u> ____ Lay Female (1) <u>Consultation - 5 Yr. Term:</u> ____ Clergy - Male (1)* <u>Consultation - 3 Yr. Term:</u> ____ Clergy Female (1)*	<u>Discipline - 6 Yr. Term:</u> ____ Lay Female (1) ____ Clergy Male (1) <u>Discipline - 5 Yr. Term:</u> ____ Lay Female (1)* ____ Clergy Female (2)* <u>Discipline - 4 Yr. Term:</u> ____ Lay Male (1)* <u>Mission Endowment Fund Committee:</u> ____ 3 Yr. Term (2) Clergy/Lay - Male or Female <i>*Terms have been adjusted due to no fulfillments in previous assembly election(s)</i>	INSERT DIGITAL PHOTO HERE

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 (Please print legibly or type if not completed online. List no more than 5):							
Significant Community Service (Please print legibly or type if not completed online. List no more than 3):							
In 100 words or less, describe your unique talents that you could contribute to the position(s) of interest above. (Please print legibly or type if not completed online.)							
Are you willing and able to fulfill the duties of this position? ____ 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.