



**St. James Evangelical
Lutheran Church
November 19, 2023
Christ the King Sunday
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 Supply: Vice Pastor Drew McCaffery
Church Organist/Choir Director: Patricia McConnell
Administrative Assistant: Tim Surkovich**

**ALL LITURGY AND MUSIC RIGHTS RESERVED
REPRINTED UNDER AUGSBURG FORTRESS LITURGIES LICENSE
#31114
REPRINTED UNDER ONELICENSE.NET #A-723225**

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 Praise to You, Crowned Head Everett Titcomb
(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.

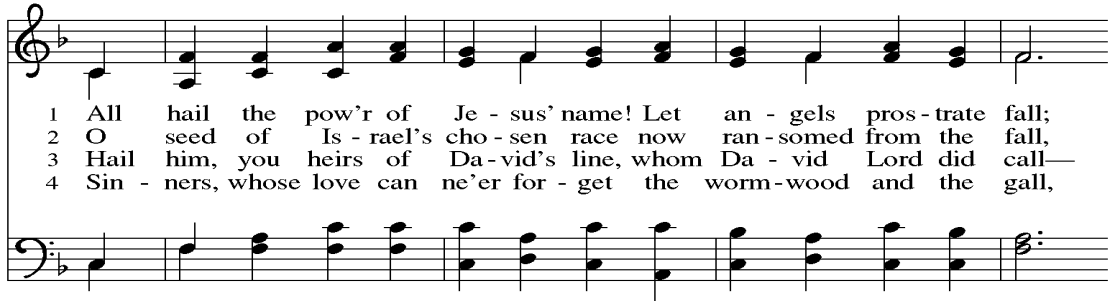
We Gather

*GATHERING SONG: All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

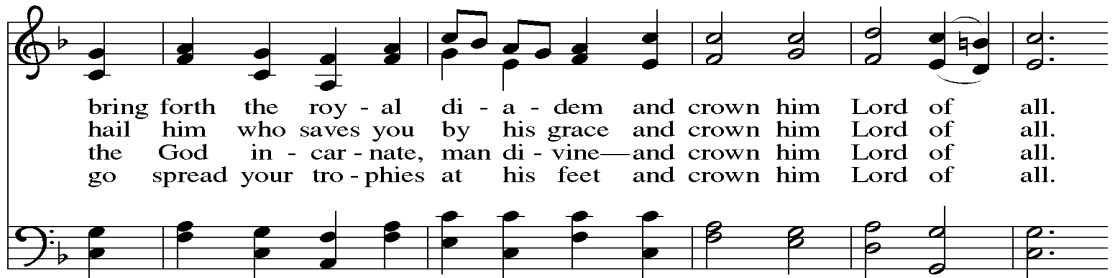
ELW 634

NEXT PAGE

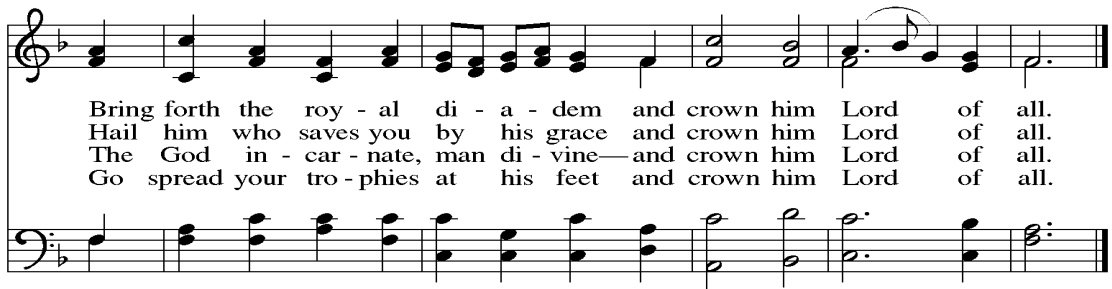
All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!



1 All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros - trate fall;
2 O seed of Is - rael's cho - sen race now ran - somed from the fall,
3 Hail him, you heirs of Da - vid's line, whom Da - vid Lord did call—
4 Sin - ners, whose love can ne'er for - get the worm - wood and the gall,



bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem and crown him Lord of all.
hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.
the God in - car - nate, man di - vine—and crown him Lord of all.
go spread your tro - phies at his feet and crown him Lord of all.



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem and crown him Lord of all.
Hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.
The God in - car - nate, man di - vine—and crown him Lord of all.
Go spread your tro - phies at his feet and crown him Lord of all.

5 Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe
on this terrestrial ball
to him all majesty ascribe
and crown him Lord of all.

6 Oh, that with yonder sacred throng
we at his feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song
and crown him Lord of all.

Text: Edward Perronet, 1726–1792, sts. 1–4; J. Rippon, *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787, sts. 5–6
Music: CORONATION, Oliver Holden, 1765–1844

*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.

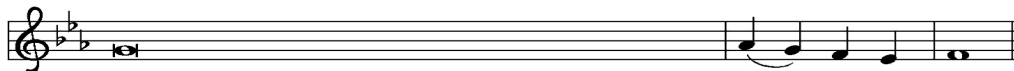
KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



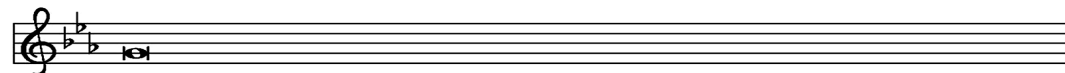
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



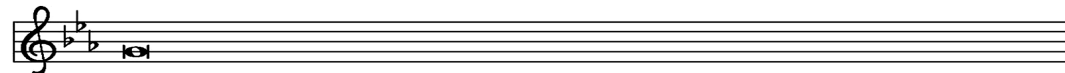
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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

who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

Refrain

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

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and

strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain

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

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of



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

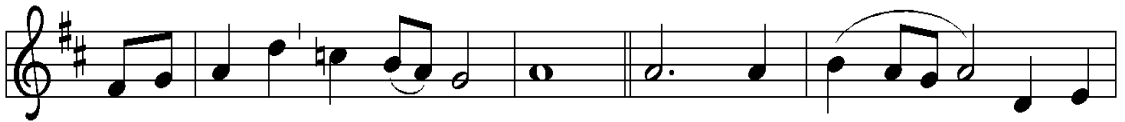


glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

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.

O God of power and might, your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve the world you have made, 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:

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

A reading from Ezekiel.

¹¹Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. ¹²As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. ¹⁴I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD.

¹⁶I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

²⁰Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, ²²I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

²³I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 95:1-7a

¹Come, let us sing to the LORD; let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

²**Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving and raise a loud shout to the LORD with psalms.**

³For you, LORD, are a great God, and a great ruler above all gods.

⁴**In your hand are the caverns of the earth; the heights of the hills are also yours.**

⁵The sea is yours, for you made it, and your hands have molded the dry land.

⁶**Come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the LORD our maker.**

^{7a}For the LORD is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand.

Second Reading:

Ephesians 1:15-23

A reading from Ephesians.

¹⁵I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. ²²And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



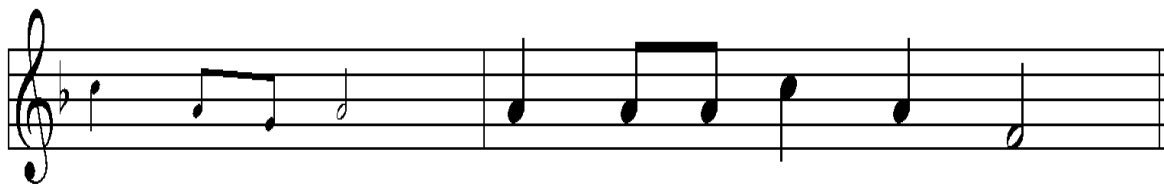
Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



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

***GOSPEL:**
The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

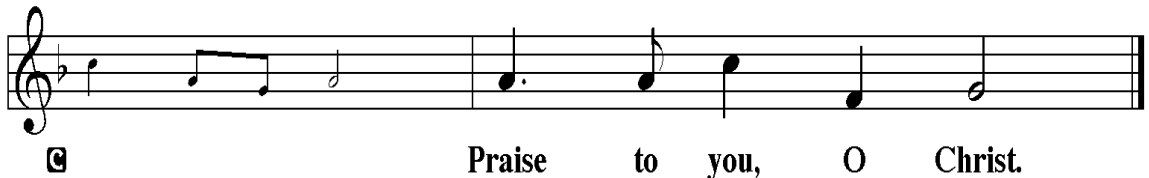
Matthew 25:31-46



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ³¹“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. ³²All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; ³⁵for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ ³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ ⁴⁰And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family you did it to me.’ ⁴¹Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; ⁴²for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ ⁴⁴Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?’ ⁴⁵Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ ⁴⁶And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

The Gospel of the Lord.



We Respond to the Word

*Hymn of the Day:

ELW 416

At the Name of Jesus



1 At the name of Je - sus ev - 'ry knee shall bow,
2 At his voice cre - a - tion sprang at once to sight,
3 Hum - bled for a sea - son, to re - ceive a name
4 In your hearts en - throne him; there let him sub - due
5 Chris - tians, this Lord Je - sus shall re - turn a - gain



ev - 'ry tongue con - fess him king of glo - ry now.
all the an - gel fac - es, all the hosts of light,
from the lips of sin - ners un - to whom he came,
all that is not ho - ly, all that is not true.
on the clouds of glo - ry, with his an - gel train;



It is God's good plea - sure we should call him Lord,
thrones and dom - i - na - tions, stars up - on their way,
faith - ful - ly he bore it spot - less to the last;
Crown him as your cap - tain in temp - ta - tion's hour;
for all wreaths of em - pire meet up - on his brow,



who from the be - gin - ning was the might - y Word.
all the heav'n - ly or - ders in their great ar - ray.
brought it back vic - to - rious when from death he passed.
let his will en - fold you in its light and pow'r.
and our hearts con - fess him king of glo - ry now.

Text: Caroline M. Noel, 1817-1877

Music: KING'S WESTON, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958

Music from *Songs of Praise*, © Oxford University Press 1925.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

***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

Let us turn our hearts to God, our breath and life, as we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Holy God, from Christ we receive our call to feed, clothe, and welcome. Direct your church to respond to this call with faithfulness and generous love. We pray for the work of ELCA World Hunger and partnerships with global feeding ministries. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

In Christ, the rock of our salvation, we are brought into union with all of creation. With mountains, seas, dry lands, and animals of the field, we seek your guidance and protection. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

In Christ we know merciful judgment. Guide rulers of every nation in ways of humble leadership and wise decision-making. Allow aid to come to all who are underserved and care to any who are neglected. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

In Christ we feel the depth of your love and care toward us. Nourish all who hunger, connect any who are isolated, and surround all who experience rejection or abuse. We pray for those who suffer (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

In Christ we are made the people of his pasture. Inspire the outreach and social ministries of this congregation (*especially*). We pray for all people who serve and attend to the needs of others. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Holy God, in Christ we are welcomed home. We praise you for the faithful witness of those who have served you and extended your welcome and love to us (*especially*). Unite us with them as one body of Christ. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We offer our spoken prayers and those held in our hearts trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior and 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

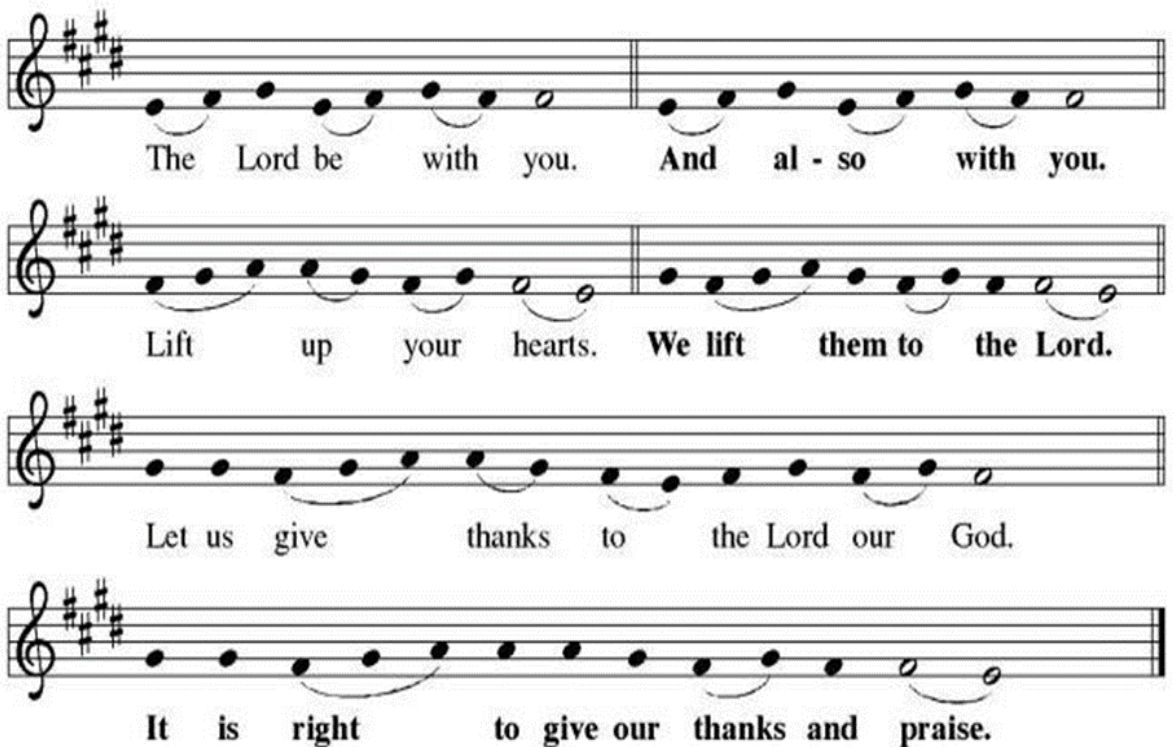
*Offering Prayer:

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.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: '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.', and 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.' The music consists of quarter and eighth notes with slurs.

*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.

For it is our Lord Jesus, who in the night in which he was betrayed took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

Again, after the supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and 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 sin. Do this for the remembrance of me".

*The Lord's Prayer

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.

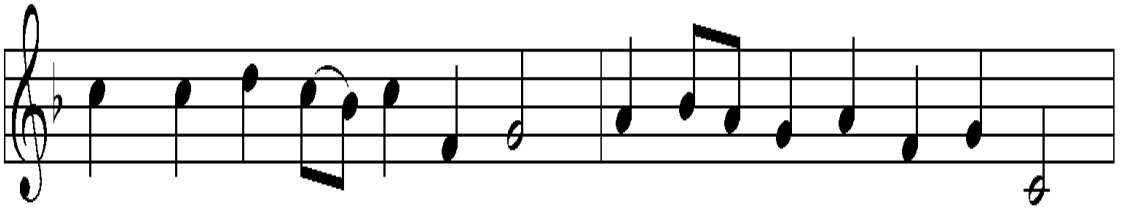
Communion Distribution — please come to the step before altar as led by the Spirit to receive the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.

*Post-Communion Blessing

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

C: Amen

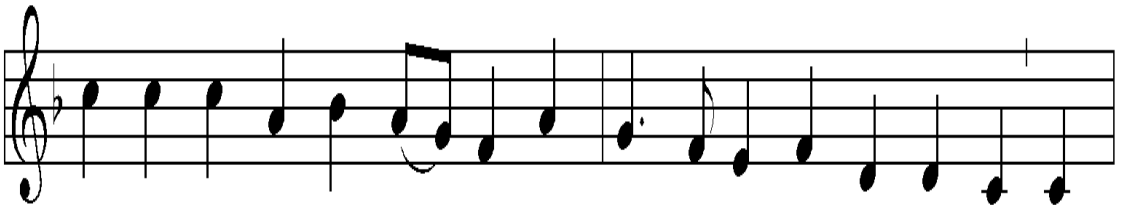
*Song after Communion:



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



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice 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.

Lord Jesus, in this simple meal you have set a banquet. Sustain us on the journey, strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children, and give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way.

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:
NEXT PAGE

Rejoice, for Christ is King!

ELW 430

*Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Recessional:

Come Thou Almighty King

Arr. Robin Dinda



Rejoice, for Christ Is King!

1 Re - joice, for Christ is king! Your Lord and king a - dore;
2 Our Sav - ior Je - sus reigns, the God of truth and love;
3 His king - dom can - not fail; he rules o'er earth and heav'n;
4 He sits at God's right hand till all his foes sub - mit

re - joice, give thanks, and sing, and tri - umph ev - er - more:
when he had purged our stains, he took his seat a - bove:
the keys of death and hell are to our Je - sus giv'n:
and bow to his com - mand and fall be - neath his feet:

Refrain

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice; re -

joice, a - gain I say, re - joice!

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	Bill Wilt
Staff Sgt John Hiles	Donna Foster	Jean Bickel	Donna Wilt
Carolyn Feather	Bill Dambeck	Judy Dambeck	

(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





UPCOMING MEETINGS, EVENTS & IMPORTANT DATES:

CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY	NOV 19
WELCA BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN BEGINS	NOV 19
FAITH ON TAP @ MARZONIS GREENWOOD	NOV 21 6 PM
ADVENT WEEK 1	NOV 26
POINSETTIA ORDER DEADLINE	NOV 26 12 PM
ADVENT MID-WEEK SERVICE @ BETHANY	NOV 29 630PM
DECORATE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS	DEC 2 10 AM
SWEETS AND TREATS/ADVENT WEEK 2	DEC 3 10 AM
FAITH ON TAP @ MARZONIS GREENWOOD	DEC 5 6 PM
ALLEGHENY CHORALE CONCERT	DEC 3 3 PM
ADVENT MID-WEEK SERVICE @ BETHANY	DEC 6 630PM
WELCA CHRISTMAS PARTY @ JETHRO'S	DEC 9 1230PM
COUNCIL MEETING/ADVENT WEEK 3	DEC 10 12 PM
ADVENT MID-WEEK SERVICE @ BETHANY	DEC 13 630PM
ADVENT WEEK 4	DEC 17
FAITH ON TAP @ MARZONIS GREENWOOD	DEC 19 6 PM
ADVENT MID-WEEK SERVICE @ BETHANY	DEC 20 630PM
CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE @ BETHANY	DEC 24 1 PM
CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE @ BETHANY	DEC 24 6 PM
CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE @ ST JAMES	DEC 24 8 PM
UN-DECORATE CHURCH AFTER CHRISTMAS	JAN 6 10 AM
WELCA BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN ENDS	JAN 7, 2024

**Note: No morning services at Bethany or St James December 24th or 25th*

SWEETS



TREATS

**SWEETS AND TREATS
THE FIRST SUNDAY OF
EACH MONTH.**

**OUR NEXT SWEETS AND TREATS
WILL BE
DECEMBER 3, 2023
Provided By: Jean Bickel**

* 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!

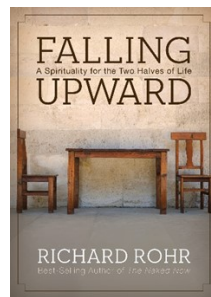
*Spread the Word
change a heart* 

**Church
Council**



**NEXT CHURCH COUNCIL
MEETING**

DECEMBER 10, 2023



Bible Study Update

Faith on Tap- 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the Month at Marzoni's in Greenwood

Since September, we have been doing a series on Richard Rohr's book *Falling Upward*. These have been great conversations as we have spoken about our spiritual upbringing but how that influences our 2nd half of life. This book study will take us to the remainder of the year as we are doing 2 chapters per session. We hope you join us as we fall upward for a time of fellowship and faithful discussions.

Faith on Tap Dates:

- Nov 7th: *Home and Sickness & Amnesia and the Big Picture*
- Nov 21st: *A Second Simplicity & The Bright Sadness*
- Dec 5th: *The Shadowlands & New Problems and New Directions*
- Dec 19th: *Falling Upward & Wrap up*

Wednesday Bible Study- Wednesdays at 1pm in Basement Fellowship Hall

We will be completing our Series with the Gospel of John by Nov 15th. We will then take an Advent Break and will return in the new year as we will be doing a much anticipated series on the Book of Revelation. Stay tuned for details.



WELCA's Christmas Luncheon

All are invited! Mark your calendar Now!



DATE DECEMBER 9, 2023

TIME: 12:30PM



WHERE: Altoona Jethro's (Party Room)

*Must register no later Dec 4th by calling the St James church office at 944-6835, or Margaret Thatcher at 814-943-4749

Sing and Praise God with accordion player Rose Ann Fregone.

** We will briefly hear from Daniellie Haluska Assistant Director of Precious Life, on how your pennies, dimes, and quarters can provide hope and help in our area for all young women dealing with pregnancy.*



This opportunity provided by a
THRIVENT grant.

thrivent[®]



Allegheny
Chorale  *presents*

Free to the public



*Everywhere
Christmas
Tonight*

Featuring the Altoona Brass Collective Quintet

Sunday, December 3, 2023 at 3pm
St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church, Altoona

Tuesday, December 5, 2023 at 7pm
First Presbyterian Church, Tyrone

Deborah Estright, Director

We ask the congregation to please contribute cookies for the social after the concert. There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex.



WELCA NEWS

Precious Life Baby Bottle Campaign



Change for Life
Baby Bottle
Campaign



Be a “STAR” this Christmas!

*Jeremiah 29:11 “For I know the plans I have for you declares the Lord”
Plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future*

Pick up an empty bottle from our Christmas Tree in the foyer. Campaign starts November 19. Take your bottle home and fill it with spare change. Bring your bottle back by January 7, 2024

*Take one for friend or relative. Remember:
“Every Life Matters!” “Every Coin Counts!”

Fill a Bottle! Save a Life!

*Precious Life provides resources to a young girl who needs to choose life for her young child.



Advent Mid-Week Services at Bethany

(Nov 29th, Dec 6th, Dec 13th, Dec 20th)

We will be hosting a midweek worship service held at church at 6:30pm. We will also be joined by our friends from St Luke's in Roaring Spring, so you will get to enjoy the experience of two Pr. McCaffery's! Our theme for this Advent will be *My Soul Magnifies the Lord*. Traditionally on the 4th Sunday of Advent, we hear the Angel Gabriel's announcement to Mary as she is carrying child. Not just any child but Jesus, the Son of God. Mary while amid her own faithful processing of this news, she responds with what we know as *The Magnificat* ("Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." ~Luke 1:38). It is during this 4-week series, we will faithfully experience and process what Mary's words mean, for us and the world during this Advent Season. See you Wednesday, Nov 30th at 6:30pm for our first service where you can join us in person or watch via FB Live. As always, our series will conclude with our traditional Blue Christmas service, for those who this time of the year is especially difficult, on December 20th.

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE



**Christ the King Sunday
November 19, 2023**

**Decorate Church for
Christmas
Saturday December 2,
2023 10 AM**



Advent
A Season of Hope
& Expectation

**November 26, 2023 to
December 17, 2023**

**Bethany 1 PM
Bethany 6 PM
St. James 8 PM**

***NOTE: Neither church will hold
services morning services December
24th or 25th***



**Un-Decorate Church
after Christmas
January 6, 2024 10 AM**



Congratulations Mike and Lori Savino on the birth of your grandson! Congratulations to Michael and Shelby on your first child, Michael Vincent Savino, "Vinnie"





Christmas Poinsettias

Bless our Sanctuary and your home this Christmas with a beautiful red poinsettia! For each \$8.50 you contribute to the St. James Flower Fund, a flower will be placed in the Sanctuary on Christmas Eve and will be available for you to take with you following our Christmas Eve Service. If you would rather donate the flower for a shut-or or friend of St. James, you may indicate that choice on this order form.

Please complete the form and return it to the church. **The deadline for poinsettia orders and payments is Sunday, November 26, 2023.** Thank you for your generosity in this endeavor!

Your Name _____
(as you wish it to appear in the bulletin)

This donation is made:

In Honor of: _____

Or

In Memory of: _____

Amount of Contribution: _____

Number of Christmas Poinsettias: _____

Envelope Number: _____

Please check one:

_____ Yes, I do want to take the poinsettia (s) home with me.

_____ No. I don't want to take the poinsettia (s). I would like them to be given to a shut in or friend of St. James

St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church

**1407 Eighth Avenue
Altoona, PA 16602**

814-944-6835

stjamesaltoona@gmail.com

www.stjamesaltoona.org



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.