



**St. James Evangelical
Lutheran Church
October 6, 2024
20th Sunday after
Pentecost**

**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: Peggy Thatcher
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: A Meditation Richard Purvis
(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: Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak

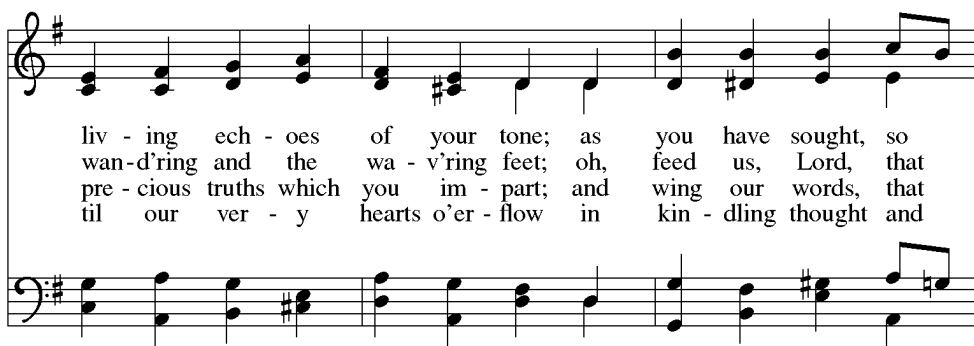
ELW 676

NEXT PAGE

Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak



1 Lord, speak to us, that we may speak in
2 Oh, lead us, Lord, that we may lead the
3 Oh, teach us, Lord, that we may teach the
4 Oh, fill us with your full - ness, Lord, un -



liv - ing ech - oes of your tone; as you have sought, so
wan - d'ring and the wa - v'ring feet; oh, feed us, Lord, that
pre - cious truths which you im - part; and wing our words, that
til our ver - y hearts o'er - flow in kin - dling thought and



let us seek your stray - ing chil - dren, lost and lone.
we may feed your hun - g'ring ones with man - na sweet.
they may reach the hid - den depths of man - y a heart.
glow - ing word, your love to tell, your praise to show.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, alt.
Music: CANONBURY, Robert Schumann, 1810–1856

***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.

Sovereign God, you have created us to live in loving community with one another. Form us for life that is faithful and steadfast, and teach us to trust like little children, that we may reflect the image of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

We Listen to the Word

First Reading:

Genesis 2:18-24

A reading from Genesis.

¹⁸The LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." ¹⁹So out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. ²⁰The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. ²¹So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. ²²And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. ²³Then the man said,

"This at last is bone of my bones
and flesh of my flesh;
this one shall be called Woman,
for out of Man this one was taken."

²⁴Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 8

¹O LORD our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!—

²**you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of infants and children; you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe and avenger.**

³When I consider your heavens, the work ^lof your fingers, the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,

⁴**what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them, human beings that you should care for them?**

⁵Yet you have made them little less than divine; with glory and honor you crown them.

⁶**You have made them rule over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet:**

⁷all flocks and cattle, even the wild beasts of the field,

⁸**the birds of the air, the fish of the sea, and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.**

⁹O LORD our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Second Reading:

Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12

A reading from Hebrews.

¹Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. ³He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

^{2:5}Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. ⁶But someone has testified somewhere,

“What are human beings that you are mindful of them,
or mortals, that you care for them?”

⁷You have made them for a little while lower than the angels;
you have crowned them with glory and honor,

⁸subjecting all things under their feet.”

Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them, ⁹but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

¹⁰It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. ¹¹For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, ¹²saying,

“I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters,
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



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

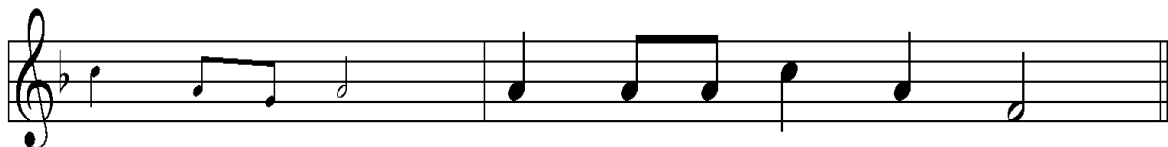


You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

***GOSPEL:**

Mark 10:2-16

The Holy Gospel according to Mark.



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

²Some Pharisees came, and to test [Jesus] they asked, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?” ³He answered them, “What did Moses command you?” ⁴They said, “Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her.” ⁵But Jesus said to them, “Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. ⁶But from the beginning of creation, ‘God made them male and female.’ ⁷‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, ⁸and the two shall become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two, but one flesh. ⁹Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.”

¹⁰Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. ¹¹He said to them, “Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; ¹²and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.”

¹³People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. ¹⁴But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, “Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. ¹⁵Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.” ¹⁶And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

The Gospel of the Lord



Sermon

We Respond to the Word

*Hymn of the Day:

ELW 444

Cradling Children in His Arm



Cra-dling chil - dren in his arm, Je - sus gave his bless - ing.



To our babes a wel-come warm he is yet ad - dress - ing.



Take them, Lord, give life a - new in the liv - ing wa - ters!



Keep them al - ways near to you as your sons and daugh - ters!

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Johannes H. V. Knudsen, 1902–1982

Music: GAUDEAMUS PARITER, Johann Horn, 1490–1547

Text © 1976 Johannes H. V. Knudsen, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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

***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

Challenged by God's Word in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and the whole creation.

A brief silence.

God of our ancestors, we give thanks for the church in all times. May we listen for the prophets of this age who bear messages that stir the church toward renewal and justice. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Creator of every creature on earth, direct our lives toward the renewal and sustaining of cattle, birds of the air, animals of the field, and those who share our homes. Reveal the ways we can work alongside creation for the health and well-being of all. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Sovereign God, we give thanks that you are mindful and benevolent to even us, mere mortals. Accompany us when hardness of heart gets in the way of justice between people and nations. Endow leaders with minds for justice and hearts for compassion. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Restoring Lord, grant healing and wholeness to those who are sick and suffering (*especially*). Work through medical professionals to diagnose, ease pain, and give life to all who seek their wisdom and experience. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Unifying God, humans were created for relationship with the earth, its creatures, and one another. Forgive us when division threatens companionship, mutual support, and unity among us. May your love inspire us to build supportive communities of faith where all are cherished. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of resurrection, you prepare a place in the kingdom through Christ's death and resurrection. We give thanks for the saints who have taken their place at your heavenly banquet (*especially William Tyndale, translator and martyr, whom we commemorate today*). God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in the saving grace you freely give, both now and forever.

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: Our Father, by Whose Name ELW 640
NEXT PAGE

*Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Recessional

Voluntary In A Minor

Manuel Emilio

Our Father, by Whose Name

1 Our Fa - ther, by whose name all par - ent - hood is known,
2 O Christ, your - self a child with - in an earth - ly home,
3 O Ho - ly Spir - it, bind our hearts in u - ni - ty

in love di - vine you claim each fam - 'ly as your own.
with heart still un - de - filed to full a - dult - hood come:
and teach us how to find the love from self set free;

Bless moth - ers, fa - thers, guard - ing well, with con - stant love as
our chil - dren bless in ev - 'ry place that they may all be -
in all our hearts such love in - crease that ev - 'ry home, by

sen - ti - nel, the homes in which your peo - ple dwell.
hold your face and, know - ing you, may grow in grace.
this re - lease, may be the dwell - ing place of peace.

Text: F. Bland Tucker, 1895–1984, alt.
Music: RHOSYMEDRE, John D. Edwards, 1806–1885
Text © Church Pension Fund, admin. Church Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved.

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

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

IN THE CASE OF A PASTORAL EMERGENCY,
In the event of a Pastoral Emergency, please contact Pastor Eli Hess
Work: 814-943-3972

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	Donna Wilt	
Carolyn Feather	Bill Dambeck	Judy Dambeck	
The Family of Janet Kauffman		The soul and family of Jean Bickel	
The soul and family of Earl Walters			

(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

In their own homes:

Deborah Manbeck



UPCOMING MEETINGS, EVENTS & IMPORTANT DATES:

SWEETS AND TREATS	TODAY	OCT 6 10 AM
COUNCIL MEETING		OCT 8 5:30 PM
*Pizza provided		
POT LUCK DINNER		OCT 27 12 PM
POINSETTIA ORDER DEADLINE		OCT 27 12 PM
CONGREGATION MEETING		NOV 10 12 PM
DECORATE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS		DEC 7 10 AM
*Pizza provided		
ALLEGHENY CHORALE CONCERT		DEC 8 3 PM
*Refreshments afterwards		



A big thank you to Robin and John Kessler for the delicious Octoberfest held on September 29th. It was well attended and enjoyed by all of us!

NEXT CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING



Tuesday October 8, 2024

5:30 PM

***Pizza Provided**

***NOTE: Day and Time Change**

SWEETS AND TREATS THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH.



**OUR NEXT SWEETS AND TREATS WILL
BE: TODAY October 6, 2024
Provided By: Shirley Manbeck**

* 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
October 27, 2024**

12:30 PM

Congregational Meeting



The **Annual Congregational** meeting
will be held:

NOVEMBER 10, 2024

after the service. There will be nominations for council members and then the election for council. The budget will be discussed and then anything else that the congregation may bring to our attention.



**The Allegheny Chorale presents their 40th Season
Christmas Concert**



St. James Lutheran Church

December 8, 2024

3PM



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

**Farewell for
Bishop Paula**

Sunday, October 6

Drop in between 3:00 and 5:00 pm
Evangelical Lutheran, Duncansville

Light refreshments will be served

TODAY



Save the Date:

YOU'RE INVITED TO A

**LUTHERAN
WOMEN'S RETREAT**

SATURDAY

October 19, 2024

9:00 am - 1:00 pm

***Watch for further details and registration
information COMING SOON!***





Count
your
Blessings

Sunday Blessings

(Psalm 100:2)

Serve the LORD
with gladness; come
before his presence
with singing.

Have a Blessed Sunday

A church building with a steeple, set against a green background with a path leading to it. The church has a dark roof and a white steeple with a small light on top. The path is a light brown color, leading from the bottom center towards the church. The background is a soft, greenish landscape with a light sky.



Christmas Poinsettias

Bless our Sanctuary and your home this Christmas with a beautiful red poinsettia! For each \$10.25 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, October 27, 2024.** 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.