



St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church

July 6, 2025

**4th Sunday
after Pentecost
Communion**

**Worship every Sunday
10:45 AM**

Welcome

We welcome all visitors who come to worship with us today. We are delighted that you have come to share in the prayer and praise of our Lord and invite you to return and add your voice to ours in holy celebration. If you have a special need or prayer write it on the prayer card in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. Before you leave us today, we ask that you please sign our guest book.

**Pulpit Supply: Rev. Scott Custead
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: Perfect Love arr. Richard Proulx

(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: Now Thank We All Our God

ELW 840

NEXT PAGE

Now Thank We All Our God




1 Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices,
2 Oh, may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
3 All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,



who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices;
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,
the Son, and Spirit blest, who reign in highest heaven,



who, from our mothers' arms, has blest us on our way
and keep us all in grace, and guide us when perplexed,
the one eternal God, whom earth and heaven adore;



with count-less gifts of love, and still is ours to-day.
and free us from all harm in this world and the next.
for thus it was, is now, and shall be ever more.

Text: Martin Rinkhart, 1586–1649; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878
Music: NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

***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.

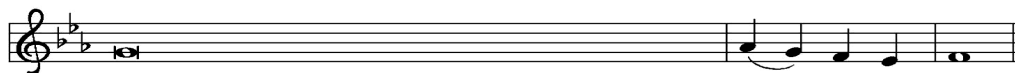
KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



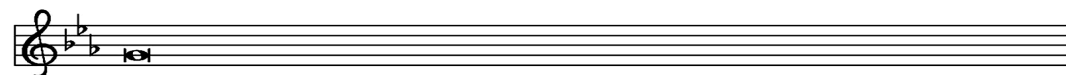
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



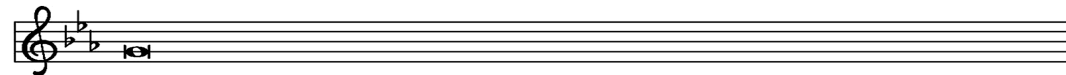
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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, the Father of our Lord Jesus, you are the city that shelters us, the mother who comforts us. With your Spirit accompany us on our life's journey, that we may spread your peace in all the world, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

We Listen to the Word

First Reading:

Isaiah 66:10-14

A reading from Isaiah.

¹⁰ Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad for her, all you who love her; rejoice with her in joy, all you who mourn over her—

¹¹ that you may nurse and be satisfied from her consoling breast; that you may drink deeply with delight from her glorious bosom.

¹² For thus says the LORD: I will extend prosperity to her like a river, and the wealth of the nations like an overflowing stream; and you shall nurse and be carried on her arm, and dandled on her knees.

¹³ As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you; you shall be comforted in Jerusalem.

¹⁴ You shall see, and your heart shall rejoice; your bodies shall flourish like the grass; and it shall be known that the hand of the LORD is with his servants, and his indignation is against his enemies.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 66:1-9

¹ Be joyful in God, all you lands; be joyful, all the earth.

² **Sing the glory of God's name; sing the glory of God's praise.**

³ Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds! Because of your great strength your enemies cringe before you

⁴ **All the earth bows down before you, sings to you, sings out your name."**

⁵ Come now and see the works of God, how awesome are God's deeds toward all people.

⁶ **God turned the sea into dry land, so that they went through the water on foot, and there we rejoiced in God.**

⁷ Ruling forever in might, God keeps watch over the nations; let no rebels exalt themselves.

⁸ **Bless our God, you peoples; let the sound of praise be heard.**

⁹ Our God has kept us among the living and has not allowed our feet to slip.

Second Reading:

Galatians 6:[1-6] 7-16

A reading from Galatians.

[¹ My friends, if anyone is detected in a transgression, you who have received the Spirit should restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness. Take care that you yourselves are not tempted. ² Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. ³ For if those who are nothing think they are something, they deceive themselves. ⁴ All must test their own work; then that work, rather than their neighbor's work, will become a cause for pride. ⁵ For all must carry their own loads.

⁶ Those who are taught the word must share in all good things with their teacher.]

⁷ Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow. ⁸ If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh; but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit. ⁹ So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. ¹⁰ So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith.

¹¹ See what large letters I make when I am writing in my own hand!

¹² It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that try to compel you to be circumcised—only that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. ¹³ Even the circumcised do not themselves obey the law, but they want you to be circumcised so that they may boast about your flesh. ¹⁴ May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. ¹⁵ For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything; but a new creation is everything! ¹⁶ As for those who will follow this rule—peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



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

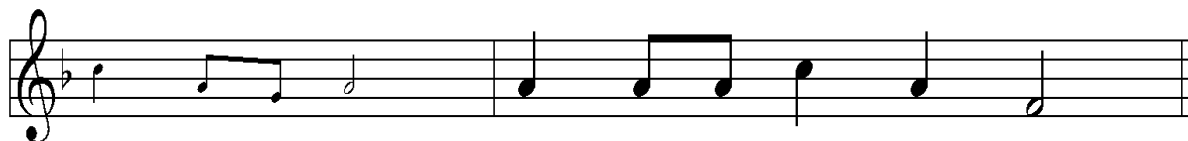


You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

***GOSPEL:**

Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

¹ After this the Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. ² He said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. ³ Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. ⁴ Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road. ⁵ Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house!' ⁶ And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you. ⁷ Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the laborer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. ⁸ Whenever you enter a town and

its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; ⁹ cure the sick who are there, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.'

¹⁰ But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say, ¹¹ 'Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near.' "

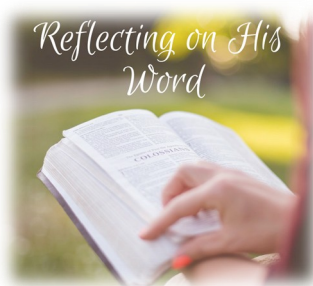
¹⁶ "Whoever listens to you listens to me, and whoever rejects you rejects me, and whoever rejects me rejects the one who sent me."

¹⁷ The seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!" ¹⁸ He said to them, "I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning. ¹⁹ See, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing will hurt you. ²⁰ Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

The Gospel of the Lord.



Sermon

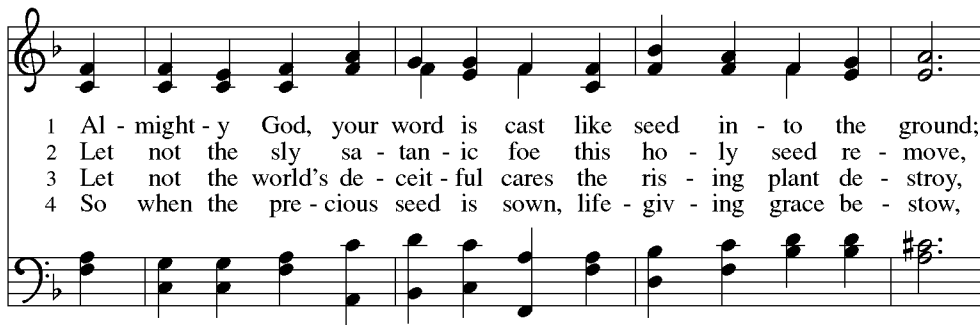


We Respond to the Word

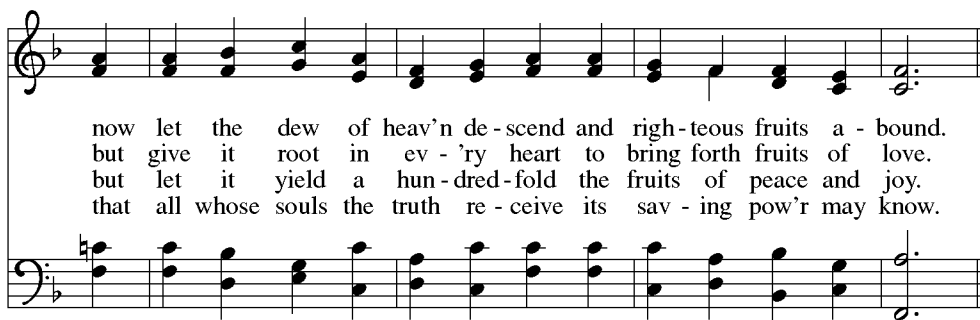
*Hymn of the Day:

ELW 516

Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast



1 Al - might - y God, your word is cast like seed in - to the ground;
2 Let not the sly sa - tan - ic foe this ho - ly seed re - move,
3 Let not the world's de - ceit - ful cares the ris - ing plant de - stroy,
4 So when the pre - cious seed is sown, life - giv - ing grace be - stow,



now let the dew of heav'n de - scend and righ - teous fruits a - bound.
but give it root in ev - 'ry heart to bring forth fruits of love.
but let it yield a hun - dred - fold the fruits of peace and joy.
that all whose souls the truth re - ceive its sav - ing pow'r may know.

Text: John Cawood, 1775–1852, alt.
Music: ST. FLAVIAN, J. Day, *Psalter*, 1562

***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

Drawn into the embrace of the holy Trinity, we lift our prayers for the wholeness of the church, the world, and all creation.

A brief silence.

You send your church into the world with a message of peace. Center the whole church in this peace, and strengthen our faith by the example of (*Jan Hus and*) all those who creatively and faithfully proclaim your good news. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

All the earth sings out your name. Inspire your people to drink deeply from the beauty of (*local natural beauty and*) all your creation. When ecosystems are wounded, bring your healing. When our actions endanger the survival of other species, curb our greed and waste. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

You call us to work for the good of all. Give resolve to those who lead, that they do not grow weary in doing what is right. Guide them to seek peace between nations and freedom for all people. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

As a mother comforts her child, so you comfort us. Bring this comfort to those in any pain (*especially*). Carry your people when grief is heavy, and lift burdens of shame and self-doubt. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Your harvest is plentiful, O God. Make us laborers and companions with one another in this assembly. Send your peace to rest upon us, heal divisions among us, and open our hearts to receive one another as gifts from you. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

You have written our names in heaven, O God, and we rejoice. We thank you for those who have lived and died in your love. Accompany us on our life's journey and draw us at last to life forever in you. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Gather all our prayers in your mercy, O God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

*Sharing of the Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

We Offer Our Gifts

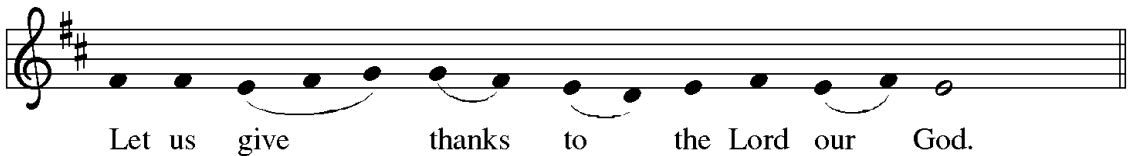
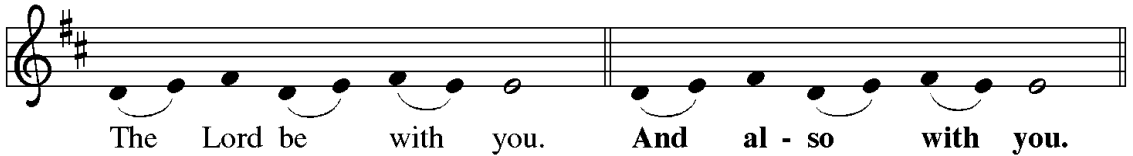
*Offering Prayer:

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.**

We Share the Feast

*Holy Communion



P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ, who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na in the high - est.

*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.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus 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."

For as often as we eat this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

*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 - joice and proud-ly bear his name.



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



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

***Prayer after Communion**

P: Let us pray.

Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name.

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

O Zion, Haste

ELW 668

***Dismissal**

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Recessional:

Sonata In D minor

Carlos Seixas

O Zion, Haste

1 O Zi - on, haste, your mis - sion high ful - fill - ing,
2 Pub - lish to ev - ry peo - ple, tongue, and na - tion
3 He comes a - gain! O Zi - on, ere you meet him,

to tell to all the world that God is light;
that God, in whom they live and move, is love;
make known to ev - ry heart his sav - ing grace;

that he who made all na - tions is not will - ing
tell how he stooped to save his lost cre - a - tion
let none whom he has ran - somed fail to greet him,

one soul should per - ish, lost in shades of night.
and died on earth that we might live a - bove.
through your ne - glect, un - fit to see his face.

Refrain

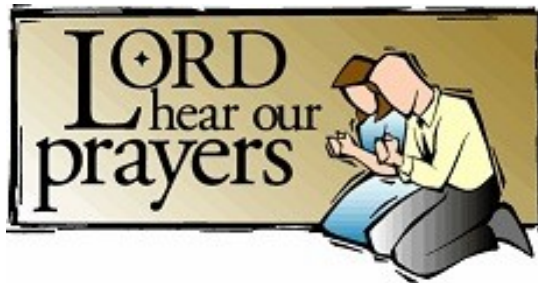
Pub - lish glad tid - ings, tid - ings of peace,

tid - ings of Je - sus, re - demp - tion, and re - lease.

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	Jeff Bickel	Bill Wilt	Bob Holsinger Sr
Staff Sgt John Hiles	Donna Foster	Donna Wilt	Bob Holsinger
Carolyn Feather	Bill Dambeck	Judy Dambeck	Evelyn Holsinger
The soul and family of Debbie Thomas		The soul and family of Debra Morgan	
The soul Marian Holsinger		The soul of Deborah Manbeck	

(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



UPCOMING MEETINGS, EVENTS & IMPORTANT DATES:

Sweets and Treats TODAY	Jul 6 10 AM
St Lukes Community Lunch	Jul 9 12 PM
Church Service and Picnic	Jul 27 10 AM
*Highland Park Pavillion #1 with Bethany	
ST James Church Picnic	Aug 10 11 AM
*Highland Park Pavillion #1	
<i>*Please note date change</i>	
Church Service and Picnic	Aug 24 10 AM
*Highland Park Pavillion #2 with Bethany	
Lutheran Day at the Curve	Aug 24 5 PM
Church Council Meeting	Sep 9 5:30 PM





NEXT CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

September 9, 2025

5:30 PM

SWEETS



TREATS

SWEETS AND TREATS

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF
EACH MONTH.

**OUR NEXT SWEETS AND TREATS WILL
BE: TODAY July 6, 2025**

Provided By: Bob and Evelyn Holsinger

* 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!

COMMUNITY LUNCH



ST LUKES COMMUNITY LUNCH

July 9th 12 PM

- Hosted by St James Lutheran Held 2nd Wednesday of each month in the St James Social Hall

CHURCH PICNIC

Planning for the church picnic has begun. You can use the sign up sheet on the stand in the narthex or on the foyer bulletin board. Or use the sheet on the next page.

Church Picnic will be held August 10, 2025 at Highland Park, Pavilion #1

PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE!



The banner features a green field of daisies on the left and a red and white checkered pattern on the right. The text "Outdoor worship & Church Picnic" is written across the banner in white and black fonts.

Outdoor worship & Church Picnic



Please plan to attend our outdoor worships & picnics on the 4th Sunday of June, July, and August.

WORSHIP BEGINS AT 10:00 AM,
FOLLOWED BY PICNIC LUNCH.
MAIN DISH WILL BE PROVIDED.
PLEASE BRING A SIDE DISH,
SALAD OR DESSERT TO SHARE.



Location: Highland Park, Altoona
June 22nd - Pavillion #2
July 27th - Pavillion #1
August 24th - Pavillion #2



Come enjoy fun, food, and fellowship
at
Lutheran Day
at the
Altoona Curve

Sunday, August 24



Buffet begins at 5pm

Game begins at 6 pm

**Please order your tickets by Sunday, August 10.
Email alleghenysynodcurvetickets@gmail.com
or call/text 814.934.9941. Please mail payments
to the Allegheny Synod Office, 916 Hickory St.,
Hollidaysburg, PA 16648**

Tickets: \$15/each

Price includes all-you-can-eat
buffet one hour before the game
at the first base picnic area at
PNG Field and a Terrace level
(200-level) game ticket.

*Please note: Children 2 and under
are free.*

If you are unable to join us for the
buffet and wish to attend
ONLY the game, individual tickets
are \$11/each.

Fireworks following the game!
Kids 14 and under run the bases!

Ticket Order Form

Contact Name			
Contact Phone Number			
Number of Adults/Children 3+ Buffet and Game tickets		X \$15.00	= \$
Number of Adults/Children 3+ GAME ONLY tickets		X \$11.00	= \$
Number of Children Ages 2 and under	<small>Children ages 2 and under must sit on an adult's lap to receive a free ticket.</small>	FREE	= \$0.00
Postage & Envelope Cost if Requesting Mailed Tickets			+ \$0.75
Total Amount Enclosed			= \$
Mailing Address (If Requesting Mailed Tickets)			

If you wish for your tickets to be mailed to you, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope, or add an additional \$0.75 to your total.

Order Deadline - August 10

Mail completed order form and payment to:

Allegheny Synod, 916 Hickory St., Hollidaysburg, PA 16648

If you have questions, email alleghenysynodcurvetickets@gmail.com

*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.