



# St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church

June 14, 2026

3rd 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**

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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: O store Gud arr. Robert Hobby  
(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:

On Eagles Wings

ELW 787

NEXT PAGE

## On Eagle's Wings

Leader or All

1 You who dwell in the shel-ter of the Lord, who a-bide in this shad-ow for life,  
 say to the Lord: "My ref - uge, my rock in whom I trust!"

*Refrain*  
All

And he will raise you up on ea-gle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,  
 make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.

Leader or All

2 The snare of the fowl-er will nev-er cap-ture you, and fam-ine will bring you no  
 fear; un-der God's wings your ref-uge, with faith-ful-ness your shield.

Leader or All

3 You need not fear the ter-ror of the night, nor the ar-row that flies by  
 day; thou- sands fall a - bout you, near you it shall not come.

Leader or All

4 For to the an-gels God's giv - en a com-mand to  
 guard you in all of your ways; up - on their hands they will  
 bear you up, lest you dash your foot a - gainst a stone.

*Final refrain*  
All

And he will raise you up on ea-gle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,  
 make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand,  
 And hold you, hold you in the palm of his hand.

Text: Michael Joncas, b. 1957  
 Music: ON EAGLE'S WINGS, Michael Joncas  
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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.

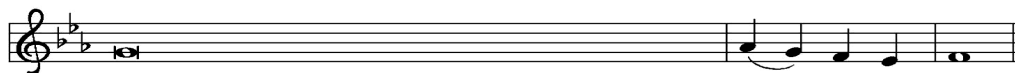
KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



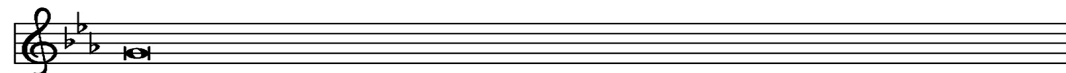
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



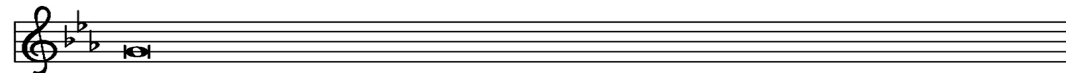
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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.

**God of compassion, you have opened the way for us and brought us to yourself. Pour your love into our hearts, that, overflowing with joy, we may freely share the blessings of your realm and faithfully proclaim the good news of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

### *We Listen to the Word*

**First Reading:**

**Exodus 19:2-8a**

A reading from Exodus.

<sup>2</sup> [The Israelites] journeyed from Rephidim, entered the wilderness of Sinai, and camped in the wilderness; Israel camped there in front of the mountain.<sup>3</sup> Then Moses went up to God; the LORD called to him from the mountain, “Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob and tell the Israelites: <sup>4</sup> ‘You have seen what I did to the Egyptians and how I bore you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself. <sup>5</sup> Now, therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine, <sup>6</sup> but you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation.’ These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites.”

<sup>7</sup> So Moses went, summoned the elders of the people, and set before them all these words that the LORD had commanded him. <sup>8a</sup> The people all answered as one, “Everything that the LORD has spoken we will do.”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm:**

**Psalm 100**

<sup>1</sup> Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all you lands! <sup>2</sup> Serve the LORD with gladness; come into God’s presence with a song.

<sup>3</sup> **Know that the LORD is God, our maker to whom we belong; we are God’s people and the sheep of God’s pasture.**

<sup>4</sup> Enter the gates of the LORD with thanksgiving and the courts with praise; give thanks and bless God's holy name.

<sup>5</sup> **Good indeed is the LORD, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from age to age.**

**Second Reading:**

**Romans 5:1-8**

A reading from Romans.

<sup>1</sup> Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup> through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. <sup>3</sup> And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, <sup>4</sup> and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup> and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

<sup>6</sup> For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup> Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. <sup>8</sup> But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

\* Please stand if you are able

\*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 9:35—10:8 [9-23]**

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.



<sup>35</sup> Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness. <sup>36</sup> When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. <sup>37</sup> Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; <sup>38</sup> therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.”

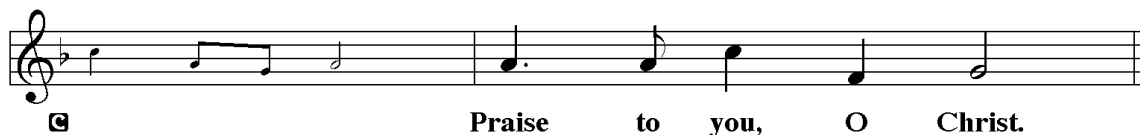
<sup>10:1</sup> Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. <sup>2</sup> These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee and his brother John; <sup>3</sup> Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus and Thaddaeus; <sup>4</sup> Simon the Cananaean and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

<sup>5</sup> These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: “Do not take a road leading to gentiles, and do not enter a Samaritan town, <sup>6</sup> but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. <sup>7</sup> As you go, proclaim the good news, ‘The kingdom of heaven has come near.’ <sup>8</sup> Cure the sick; raise the dead; cleanse those with a skin disease; cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment. [<sup>9</sup> Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts, <sup>10</sup> no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff, for laborers deserve their food. <sup>11</sup> Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you leave. <sup>12</sup> As you enter the house, greet it. <sup>13</sup> If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it, but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. <sup>14</sup> If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town.

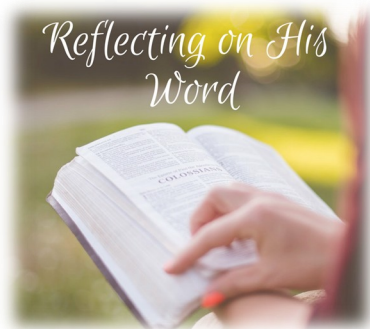
<sup>15</sup> Truly I tell you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town.

<sup>16</sup> “I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. <sup>17</sup> Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues, <sup>18</sup> and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the gentiles. <sup>19</sup> When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say, for what you are to say will be given to you at that time, <sup>20</sup> for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. <sup>21</sup> Sibling will betray sibling to death and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death, <sup>22</sup> and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. <sup>23</sup> When they persecute you in this town, flee to the next, for truly I tell you, you will not have finished going through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.”]

## The Gospel of the Lord.



## Sermon



# We Respond to the Word

\*Hymn of the Day:

ELW 679

## For the Fruit of All Creation

1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.  
2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.  
3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.

For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.  
In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.  
For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.

For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,  
In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,  
For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,

fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.  
in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.  
most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: AR HYDY NOS, Welsh traditional; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

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Outside USA: Arr. from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906.

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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

Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the church and the needs of the world.

*A brief silence.*

God of freedom, you ransomed Israel from slavery to be a holy people. As we observe Juneteenth this coming week, free us also to be a people who proclaim your liberating love. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

God of creation, you call all the earth to make a joyful noise to you. Let us join the chorus of the natural world in proclaiming your glory. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

God of the nations, you sent Jesus as peace for all of humankind. Bring an end to war and conflict, bring hope to places devastated by destruction (*especially*), and sustain those who advocate for peace. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

God of grace, you pour hope and love into our hearts in times of shame and doubt. Protect those experiencing housing insecurity. Uplift anyone struggling with hopelessness, illness, or other worries (*especially*). God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

God of all, you call your children to serve in a plentiful harvest. Give us the wisdom to know how best to serve our local community and our neighbors.

God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

God of faith, we give thanks for (*Macrina, Basil the Great, Gregory of Nyssa, Gregory of Nazianzus, and all*) the saints who earnestly seek you. Guide us as we seek to follow those who have led your church. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Trusting you receive all our prayers, we commend our spoken and unspoken prayers to you, O God, through Jesus our Savior.

**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: Spread, Oh, Spread, Almighty Word ELW 663  
*NEXT PAGE*

\*Dismissal

**P:** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God**

Recessional

Give Me Jesus

arr. Richard Billingham

## Spread, Oh, Spread, Almighty Word

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Spread, Oh, Spread, Almighty Word'. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment line on a bass clef staff. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line. The first system contains the first four lines of the hymn, and the second system contains the final four lines. The music is written in a common time signature (C) and a key signature of one sharp (F#).

1 Spread, oh, spread, al - might - y Word, spread the reign of God the Lord.  
2 Tell of our Re - deem - er's grace, who, to save our hu - man race  
3 Tell of God the Spir - it giv'n now to guide us on to heav'n,  
4 Lord of har - vest, great and kind, rouse to ac - tion heart and mind;

Send forth our Cre - a - tor's call, heav - en's gifts ex - tend to all.  
and to pay re - bel - lion's price, gave him - self as sac - ri - fice.  
strong and ho - ly, just and true, work - ing both to will and do.  
let the gath - 'ring na - tions all see your light and heed your call.

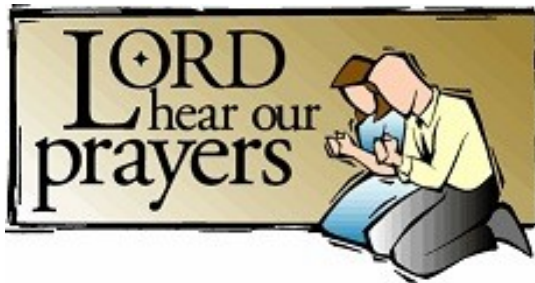
Text: Jonathan F. Bahnmaier, 1774–1841; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*, alt.  
Music: GOTT SEI DANK, J. A. Freylinghausen, *Geistreiches Gesangbuch*, 1704  
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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# 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](mailto:stjamesaltoona@gmail.com) The church's  
website is [www.stjamesaltoona.org](http://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

Carolyn Feather

Bill Dambeck

Judy Dambeck

The soul and family of Debbie Thomas

The soul and family of Debra Morgan

The soul of Marian "Toots" Holsinger

The soul of Deborah Manbeck

The soul of Sylvia Malsatzki

The soul of Carol Weaver

(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.



## **UPCOMING MEETINGS, EVENTS & IMPORTANT DATES:**

<b>Church Picnic</b>	<b>Jun 28 11 AM</b>
<b><i>*Highland Park Pavillion #2</i></b>	
<b><i>Sweets and Treats</i></b>	<b><i>July 5 10 AM</i></b>
<b><i>Worship in the Park with Bethany</i></b>	<b><i>July 26 11 AM</i></b>
<b><i>*Highland Park Pavillion #2</i></b>	
<b><i>Worship in the Park with Bethany</i></b>	<b><i>Aug 23 11 AM</i></b>
<b><i>*Highland Park Pavillion #2</i></b>	
<b><i>Church Council Meeting</i></b>	<b><i>Sep 8 4 PM</i></b>
<b><i>Potluck Dinner</i></b>	<b><i>Sep 13 12 PM</i></b>



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

**OUR NEXT SWEETS AND TREATS WILL BE: July 5, 2026**  
**Provided By: Tina Miller**

\* 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!



**NEXT CHURCH COUNCIL**  
**MEETING**

**SEPTEMBER 8, 2026**  
**4 PM**





## **Church Picnic**

Planning for the Church Picnic has begun. You can use the sign up sheet on the bulletin board.

Church Picnic will be held June 28, 2026 at Highland Park, Pavillion #2.

Mass 11 AM Lunch 12 PM



St. James Evangelical  
Lutheran Church



is a

*Blessed  
Community*



# *St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church*

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**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.