

SAINT JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH | stjamesgp.org | 313.884.0511 170 McMillan Rd. Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236 Pastor Denise Grant | pastor@stjamesgp.org

WELCOME

Welcome to Saint James, a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and the Southeast Michigan Synod. Thank you for being part of this gathered assembly as we worship God, and receive the sacrament. If this is your first time worshipping with Saint James, we extend a special greeting to you and invite you to introduce yourself to your neighbor in the pew. If you have questions about Saint James or are looking for a spiritual home, please reach out to the Pastor (pastor@stjamesgp.org).

TODAY'S SCRIPTURES

This festival, which originated in the fourth century, celebrates the triumph of the cross. Paul reminds us that Christ crucified is the power and wisdom of God. As Moses put a serpent on a pole to be a source of healing for the Israelites, we lift high the cross as the sign of our health and salvation. Each time we make the sign of the cross we remember our baptism into the death and resurrection of Christ.

WORSHIP & HOLY EUCHARIST

All of the materials needed for this liturgy can be found in this bulletin and in the cranberry red *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (ELW) found in the pew rack.

The celebration of the sacrament, **Holy Eucharist** (also called the Lord's Supper and Holy Communion), is central to our worship. Saint James practices an open table for Holy Communion, which means that all people are invited to participate in the sacrament. Jesus is the host of the meal and extends a wide welcome. Children are welcome to participate, but may also come forward with folded arms to receive a blessing.

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE O Lord, I Love the Habitation of Your House Mark Bender Saint James Choir

STAND

GATHERING

The sign of the cross is made in remembrance of Holy Baptism.

ENTRANCE HYMN In the Cross of Christ I Glory

ELW 324

INVOCATION & GREETING

KYRIE

Evangelical
Lutheran Worship
(ELW) is the
red worship book in
the pew rack. In the
ELW, find hymns
not printed in the
bulletin and
harmony to those
printed.





For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,





gra - cious Lord. Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us,



HYMN OF PRAISE



The Hymn of Praise is sung in unison.





wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



Je - sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of



A silence of 5 to 10 seconds is kept; we prepare to speak and listen to God in prayer.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

WORD

SIT THE FIRST LESSON

see page 11 of this bulletin

PSALM

see page 12 of this bulletin

SECOND LESSON

see page 13 of this bulletin

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Verse: May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. (Gal. 6:4)

REPEAT ALLELUIA

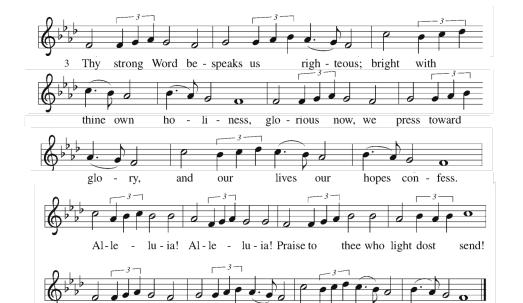
Al-le - lu-ia!

HOLY GOSPEL

see page 13 of this bulletin

with-out end!

RETURN ACCLAMATION Thy Strong Word ELW 511:3



STAND

ALL SING
as the procession
returns to the
chancel.

The Holy Gospel is read in the midst of the people, reminding us that God (The Word Incarnate) is among us.

The acclamation is sung as the procession returns to the chancel.

HOMILY

Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia

HYMN OF THE DAY When I Survey the Wondrous Cross ELW 803

STAND

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APOSTLES CREED

In the Creed, we profess our faith in our triune (Trinity) God, who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and we remember that the covenant God made with us in the sacrament can never be taken away. God has assured us of eternal life, and the presence of the Holy Spirit throughout our earthly life.

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.

INTERCESSIONS

Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

A sign of peace is shared throughout the assembly.

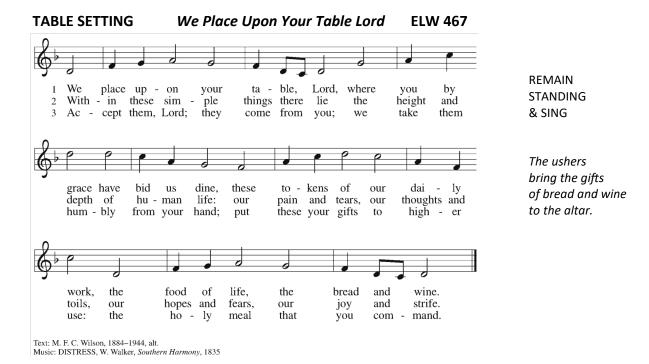
PEACE The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.



TITHES & OFFERINGS

Instead of 'passing the plate,' Saint James receives offerings in a) offering plates near each sanctuary entrance, b) via online giving at stjamesgp.org, and c) via Zelle app (QR code below). Your gifts support the ministry of the church.



PRAYER

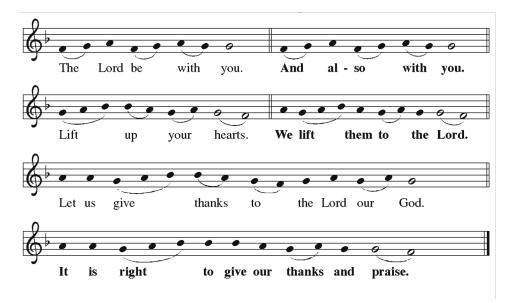
God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Distribution Come forward via the central aisle. Communion Distribution is offered by intinction. Receive the host (bread/Jesus' body) in the hand, hold it an then dip it into the cup with wine (Jesus' blood). Or consume it and take an individual cup of wine (purple) or juice (golden). Dip don't sip. A gluten free host is offered by saying "gluten free" to the pastor. If mobility keeps you from coming forward to receive, you may receive the sacrament in the pew. Please let an usher know, before worship, that this is your preference. Return to your place via the outside aisles for private prayer.

MEAL

The Great
Thanksgiving is
understood as
an act of praise
and thanksgiving.
Following Jewish
customs, the
emerging
Christian liturgies
blessed God (that
is, thanked God)
for God's
kindness and
love.

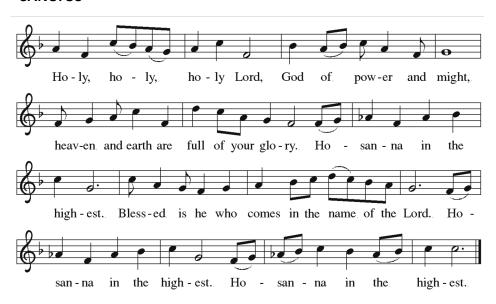
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



PREFACE

SANCTUS

The Sanctus is a series of angelic acclamations which accompanied Isaiah's vision of God (Isaiah 6:3 also Psalm 118:26).



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

You are indeed holy, almighty, and merciful God.
You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.
You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

The Words of Institution

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



Remembering, therefore, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord, and ask you to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.



In the Eucharistic Prayer, the church gives thanks for God's mighty works, from creation to redemption through Jesus, and at the same time proclaims the future reign of God that will last forever.

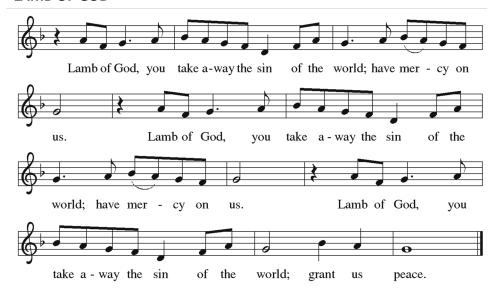
Within the gathered assembly, at Jesus' invitation, we feast on his body and blood. Lutherans utilize the term 'real presence' to talk about our Lord being truly present with us as we celebrate this holy meal.

LORD'S PRAYER

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

This is the feast of the Lamb of God who frees us from our sins, and unites us as one people. Let us rejoice and be glad!

LAMB OF GOD



SIT **DISTRIBUTION**

DISTRIBTUION MUSIC

CHOIR This Cross Mark Mummert

HYMN Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery ELW 334:1-3, General

STAND POST COMMUNION BLESSING

SENDING

SENDING PRAYER

Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with your own body and blood at this holy table. Send us now to welcome others, and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

HYMN Lift High the Cross

ELW 660

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

strengthened in body, mind, and spirit by Jesus' body and blood, we are sent into the world to proclaim the nearness of the presence of the Lord and The Kingdom of

Having been

God.

George Frideric Handel **POSTLUDE** Fugue in C Major a 3

SIT

HOLY CROSS LESSONS

September 14, 2025

FIRST LESSON Numbers 21:4b-9

When the people spoke against God and Moses, the Lord sent poisonous snakes against them. Moses interceded for the people, and the Lord ordered him to erect a serpent of bronze on a pole. All who looked at it after having been bitten by a serpent would live.

[From Mount Horeb the Israelites set out,] 4b but the people became discouraged on the way. 5 The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." ⁶ Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. ⁷ The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. 8 And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." So Moses made a serpent of bronze and put it upon a pole, and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

following the lesson

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 78:1-2, 34-38



Psalm 78:35

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¹Hear my teaching, [|] O my people; incline your ears to the words [|] of my mouth. ²I will open my mouth [|] in a parable; I will declare the mysteries of [|] ancient times. *Refrain*

³⁴Whenever God slew them, ¹ they would seek God, and repent, and diligently ¹ search for God.
³⁵They would remember that God ¹ was their rock,

and the Most High God ¹ their redeemer.

36But they flattered God ¹ with their mouths

and lied to God [|] with their tongues.

Their heart [|] was not steadfast,
and they were not faithful [|] to the covenant.

³⁸Yet God, being merciful, forgave their sins and did ¹ not destroy them; holding back anger many times and not giving ¹ way to wrath. *Refrain*

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SECOND LESSON 1 Corinthians 1:18-24

At the heart of the Christian message is the word of the cross. This proclamation seems foolish to many because it reveals true divine power in the absolute weakness of Christ's crucifixion. True wisdom understands how ours is a God who suffers for and with humankind in the cross.

¹⁸ The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹ For it is written,

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

²⁰ Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. ²² For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³ but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, ²⁴ but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

following the lesson

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Return to page 3 for the Gospel Acclamation

HOLY GOSPEL John 3:13-17

After explaining to Nicodemus that one must be born of water and Spirit, Jesus speaks of being lifted up on the cross, with reference to the bronze serpent lifted up by Moses in the desert. Here the Son of God is revealed as the source of healing.

before the Gospel

The Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] 13 "No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. 14 And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, 15 that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶ "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷ "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him."

following the Gospel

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Return to page 4 for the Gospel Acclamation

The Weekly Newsletter of Saint James Lutheran Church For the Week of September 14, 2025



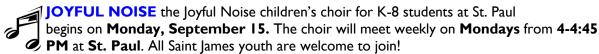


SAINT JAMES would like to remind all to please ensure that your phones and other electronic devices are silenced, switched to vibrate or turned off before worship begins. Thank you for your cooperation!

WELCOME BACK Saint James! Attendance last week was 47. We are so happy to see so many familiar faces in worship as we return to our usual fall schedule, and hope to see you all next week!

WITH CHRIST IN PEACE Friends in Christ, with hope in the resurrection we share the news that longtime member Eleanor D. Barker (October 29, 1934 - September 7, 2025) entered the Church Triumphant on Sunday, September 7, 2025. The funeral service was held this past week. Please keep Eleanor's daughter, Desiree Barker, and son, Robert Barker, in your prayers.

MUSIC REHEARSALS are held weekly on **Wednesdays.** Handbells meet at **4 PM** in the Sanctuary. Choir meets at **4:30 PM** in the Music Room (in the basement). New singers and ringers are always welcome to join, contact **Kurt Heyer** if you are interested.



LUTHER LEAGUE YOUTH GROUP at St. Paul for grades 5-12 will meet once a month (usually on a Sunday) with a focus on group activities around the Metro Detroit area. The schedule with details and locations is on the kiosk. The first meeting is **Sunday, September 21** from **2-4 PM** at **St. Paul**! All Saint James youth are welcome to attend.



BOOK CLUB will meet next on **Tuesday, September 23** at **I PM** at **Saint James** in the Gathering Area. We will be discussing *With Malice Towards None* by Stephen B. Coates. All are welcome to join for any month's discussion.

PICNIC we will be hosting our annual Saint James picnic on **Tuesday, September 23** from **5:30-7:30 PM** in the Gathering Area. Please sign up on the kiosk to let us know you are coming! Buns, meats, condiments and drinks will be provided. Please bring a dish or dessert to share.

PRAYER SHAWLS will meet on **Thursday, September 25** at **10 AM** in the Conference Room on the second floor. All knitters and crocheters are welcome!



JAZZ SERVICE We will worship together for a Jazz Service at St. Paul on Sunday, October 12 at 10 AM. This will be a combined service with St. Paul — there will be no worship at Saint James on October 12.

FINANCIALS We are looking for a few people to help with financial tasks at Saint James, including counting and depositing offerings, recording contributions, sending out annual giving statements, etc. If you are good with numbers and would like to know more details, please contact **Susan Allison.**

SCAM ALERT Pastor Grant has been spoofed on text messages asking for gift cards for hospital patients. Please know that she will never ask for gift cards nor money via text. To double check that

it's a scam, please know that she does not sign texts "Rev. Denise Grant" and her cell phone number has not changed in over 10 years. Please reach out if you have any questions.



<u>COFFEE HOUR</u> Volunteers are needed to supply goodies – either homemade or purchased -- for our weekly coffee hour. The sign-up sheet is found on the kiosk in the Welcome Area. Your help is much appreciated!

FOOD PANTRY Saint James supports the **Iroquois Food Pantry**.

Nonperishable food items are needed to support the clients who come to the food pantry. Please take time to pick-up some nonperishable food items to share when grocery shopping this week. <u>Most needed items:</u> powdered milk, canned soup, stews and ready-to-eat meals. Place items on the shelves in the Welcome Area.





ALTAR FLOWERS Sign up now for altar flowers. The sign-up sheet is found on the kiosk in the Welcome Area. If you'd like to remember or honor someone for the altar flowers, please send an email to the office or fill out the yellow flower form by **Tuesday** of that week.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS We are in need of more individuals to serve as Ushers, Crucifers, Assisting Ministers and to run the livestream on Sunday mornings. Adults and youth are welcome to help with these important worship ministries. Please contact **Ruth Richardson** if you are interested in serving in any of these roles, or have any questions about serving as a Worship Assistant. A simplified version of the livestream has been developed for anyone who isn't comfortable taking on the full livestream duties — contact **Susan Allison** if you are interested in seeing if this ministry is for you.

EMERGENCY CONTACT We would like to add an emergency contact name and number to our church software for each of our members so that a family member or friend could be notified in case of emergency. If you are willing to add that information to your profile, please email the information to office@stjamesgp.org or contact **Susan Allison**.

<u>GOT NEWS?</u> Please send information about upcoming events, celebrations, etc. for inclusion in the Saturday email newsletter to **Alicia Taub** no later than **Thursday** at **noon** of that week. All items for the Sunday bulletin must be sent to **Emily Richardson** at <u>office@stjamesgp.org</u> no later than **Tuesday** of that week. Thank you!

<u>OFFICE HOURS</u> The Saint James office is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday morning of each week. Thank you to our volunteers who staff the office on Tuesday and Thursday mornings! On Wednesdays, Emily Richardson and Pastor Grant are both in the office. The building is accessible via the side parking lot door during office hours — if the door is locked please ring the bell for access.

Mondays: Office is closed Tuesdays: 9am-12pm

Wednesdays: 9am-Ipm — Pastor Grant's Saint James office day

Thursdays: 9am-12pm

Fridays: Office is closed — Pastor Grant's day off

Worship Leaders for September 14

Assisting Minister: Richard Ferrara Communion Assistant: Lena Picek

Lector: Nancy Swartz

Altar Guild: Sue Carson & Mary Mathison

Livestream: Susan Allison

Dick Allison & Arnold Brammeier Ushers:

Worship Leaders for September 21

Assisting Minister: Larry Sabol

Communion Assistant: Pam Perkowski

Lector: Rose Picek Altar Guild: Tracey Simpson Livestream: Sue Martin

Ushers: Hank & Tracey Simpson

Full September schedule can be found on the kiosk

Offering Plates

Saint James places offering plates at each entrance to the sanctuary. For more information about offerings, including electronic giving, see the bulletin. Thank you for your faithfulness in stewardship. Every contribution helps to support Saint James' mission and the proclamation of the gospel in the world. Find us on Zelle using: giving@stjamesgp.org

Remember in Prayer - Laura Blake - the family of Eleanor Barker - Tom Kressbach - Russ Halleen - All deployed military and their families.

Contact Emily Moellering or Pastor to add a name to the Prayer List or to ask the Prayer Team to pray for a specific need.

> Coffee Hour Please join us each Sunday after service for Coffee Hour in the Welcome Area (beyond the municipal parking lot doors near the nursery.) Grab a cup of coffee or juice and a

goodie and enjoy some Christian fellowship.

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Sunday, September 14

Holy Cross Sunday **Choir Sings**

Ham: Holy Eucharist

Fellowship immediately following worship

Monday, September 15

Office Closed on Mondays

4pm: Joyful Noise Children's Choir (at St. Paul)

Tuesday, September 16

8am: Men's Club Chorus (Undercroft)

9am-12pm: Office Hours

Wednesday, September 17

Pastor Grant's Office Day 9am-Ipm: Office Hours

4pm: Handbells Rehearsal (Sanctuary) 4:30pm: Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)

Thursday, September 18

9am-12pm: Office Hours Friday, September 19

Office Closed on Fridays

Saturday, September 20

9am: Licensed Lay Minister Program (Gathering Area)

Sunday, September 21

Pentecost 15

I Iam: Holy Eucharist

Fellowship immediately following worship 2pm: Luther League Youth Group (at St. Paul)

Monday, September 22

Office Closed on Mondays

4pm: Joyful Noise Children's Choir (at St. Paul)

Tuesday, September 23

8am: Men's Club Chorus (Undercroft)

9am-12pm: Office Hours

Ipm: Book Club (at Jeanette Knutson's home) 5:30-7:30pm: Picnic (in Gathering Area)

Wednesday, September 24

Pastor Grant's Office Day

9am-Ipm: Office Hours

4pm: Handbells Rehearsal (Sanctuary) 4:30pm: Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)

Thursday, September 25

9am-12pm: Office Hours 10am: Prayer Shawls

LOOKING AHEAD: October 12 — Combined Jazz Service