



# Lent 5

March 22, 2026

11:00 a.m.

SAINT JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH | [stjamesgp.org](http://stjamesgp.org) | 313.884.0511  
170 McMillan Rd. Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236  
Pastor Denise M. Grant | [pastor@stjamesgp.org](mailto: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 Pastor Grant ([pastor@stjamesgp.org](mailto:pastor@stjamesgp.org)).

## TODAY'S SCRIPTURES

In today's gospel Jesus reveals his power over death by raising Lazarus from the dead. The prophet Ezekiel prophesies God breathing new life into dry bones. To those in exile or living in the shadows of death, these stories proclaim God's promise of resurrection. In baptism we die with Christ that we might also be raised with him to new life. At the Easter Vigil we will welcome the newly baptized as we remember God's unfailing promise in our baptism.

## HOLY EUCHARIST

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. Distribution information is found on page 10.

## PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

---

*In silence  
preparations are  
made (personally  
and corporately)  
for worship.*

### SILENCE

### PRELUDE

*Jesus Lives, My Sure Defense*

J.S. Bach

## GATHERING

---

### STAND

*The sign of the  
cross is made in  
remembrance of  
our baptism.*

### CONFESSION

In the name of the Father, and the Son + and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt  
and blots out all offenses.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you:  
Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word:  
Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering the  
work of the Spirit:  
Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for disdain  
the living water Christ offers:  
Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For disregarding voices from the margin,  
and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world:  
Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent,  
and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life:  
Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

*The words of this  
Confession  
acknowledge that  
we have fallen  
short of God's  
commands to love  
and serve. We ask  
God to forgive us  
that we would try  
again to serve  
faithfully.*

*It is because of  
Jesus' death on the  
cross, where sin  
and death are  
defeated forever,  
that the sins that  
would otherwise  
bind us and keep us  
from a good and  
right relationship  
with God,  
are forgiven.*



Lord, have mer - cy.

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

let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.

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

*The Prayer of the Day also known as The Collect begins with a silence of 5 to 10 seconds is kept to quietly collect ourselves to speak and listen to God in prayer.*

SIT

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

---

### **WORD**

**FIRST LESSON**

*see page 12 of this bulletin*

**PSALM**

*see page 13 of this bulletin*

**SECOND LESSON**

*see page 13 of this bulletin*

## LENTEN ACCLAMATION

Re - turn to the Lord, your God, who is gra-cious and mer - ci -  
ful, slow to an-ger, and a - bound-ing in stead-fast love.

The musical notation is in G major, 4/4 time. The first line has a triplet of eighth notes on the word 'mer'. The second line ends with a double bar line.

STAND and SING

*The Proper Verse, which is a single line of scripture that highlights the theme of the day's scriptures, is sung by the choir or cantor.*

Text: Joel 2:13  
Music: Anne Krentz Organ  
Music © 2009 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.  
Permission is granted for reproduction of this item for non-sale local use only, provided that each copy carries the copyright notice.

**Verse :** *I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me will never die.* (John 11:25, 26)

## REPEAT ACCLAMATION

## HOLY GOSPEL

*see page 14 of this bulletin*

## RETURN ACCLAMATION Christ, the Life of All the Living ELW 339:1

1 Christ, the life of all the liv - ing, Christ, the death of death, our foe,  
Christ, your - self for me once giv - ing to the dark - est depths of woe:  
through your suf - f'ring, death, and mer - it life e - ter - nal I in - her - it.  
Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks are due, dear - est Je - sus, un - to you.

The musical notation is in G major, 4/4 time. It consists of four lines of music with lyrics underneath. The first line starts with a '1' indicating the beginning of the acclamation.

## HOMILY

SIT

## HYMN OF THE DAY Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart ELW 750

STAND

## APOSTLES CREED

*We are baptized  
in God's Triune  
name: Father, Son  
and Holy Spirit.  
Each part of The  
Apostles Creed  
tells about one  
part of the Trinity,  
reminding us what  
God has done and  
will do.*

**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 again 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.**

## SHARING THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

---

## THE PEACE

*In the season of Lent, our focus turns to reconciliation with God: confessing our sins, repenting of them, and having our relationship with God made right. Having been reconciled to God (by Jesus) we are therefore able to be reconciled to one another, that is, we can forgive one another. When we share the peace of the Lord with another person, we are asking for forgiveness and in turn forgiving them.*

---

TABLE SETTING    *Seed That in Earth Is Dying*    ELW 330:1, 3

- 1    **Seed that in earth is dying  
grows into ears of grain.  
Grapes that are crushed in the vessel  
turn into golden wine.  
God, through this mystery grant us  
faith in our deepest darkness,  
life in our night and death.**
  
- 3    **Seed that in earth is dying  
rises to bear much fruit.  
Christ, as we meet at your table,  
give us the bread of life.  
Lord, we do thank and adore you!  
Unceasing praise of the ages  
rises from night and death.**

REMAIN  
STANDING  
& SING

Text: Svein Ellingsen, b. 1929; tr. Hedwig T. Durnbaugh, b. 1929  
English text © Hedwig T. Durnbaugh, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## PRAYER

Merciful Lord, you invite us to keep the season of Lent so that we remember the humble ministry of Your Son. Give us the devotion to live more sparingly and then share what is saved that our neighbor may rejoice to see Your unselfish love through us, through Jesus Christ our LORD. **Amen.**



### 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](http://stjamesgp.org), and c) via Zelle app (QR code). Your gifts support the ministry of the church.*

## 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

The Lord be with you.

**And also 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.**

### PREFACE

### SANCTUS

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

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.

### EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

We give you thanks holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might live with and serve all your creatures.

When disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, keeping your covenant with us, and teaching us through your prophets the hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin.

To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

*The Words of Institution are prayed.*

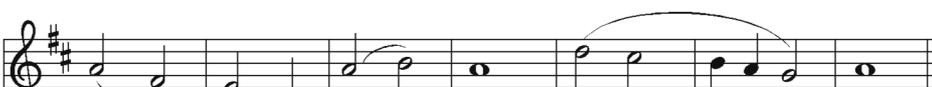
Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.



Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Through him all glory and honor are yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church both now and forever.



A - men, a - men, a - men.

## LORD'S PRAYER

*In the Eucharistic Prayer, the church gives thanks for God's mighty works in the past, in creation and redemption through Jesus Christ, and thereby proclaims its faith in the blessings that come in the future both in this life and in eternal life yet to come.*

*We pray with the words that Jesus first taught to his disciples when they asked him how to pray. Mt 6:9-13*

*The bread is broken and distributed for all. We share in the body and blood of Jesus, whose real presence is with us in this sacred meal.*

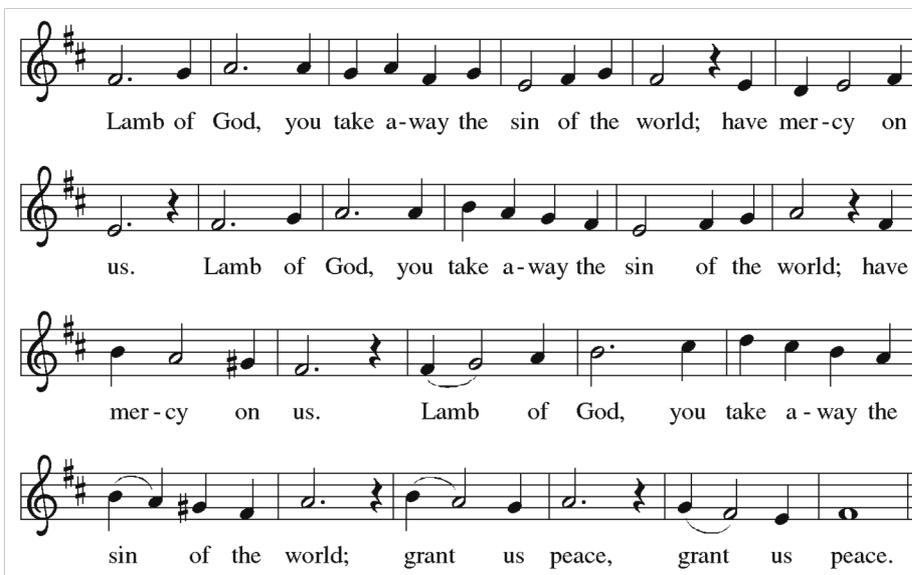
## THE BREADING OF THE BREAD

This is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world;  
our peace and reconciliation.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

## LAMB OF GOD

*The Lamb of God  
is drawn from the  
Gospel of John;  
John 1:29*



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.

SIT

## SAINT JAMES COMMUNION PRACTICE

### Distribution

Come forward via the central aisle.

Communion Distribution is offered by **intinction**.

Receive the host (bread/Jesus' body) in the hand, hold it and then **dip it** into the cup with wine (Jesus' blood). Or consume it and take an individual cup of wine (purple) or juice (golden).

A gluten free host is offered by saying "gluten free" to the pastor.

If you prefer to 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.

## DISTRIBUTION & DISTRIBUTION MUSIC

HYMN      *Abide with Me*      ELW 629

## POST COMMUNION BLESSING

*After all have  
communed  
STAND as  
indicated by the  
Presider.*

## SENDING

---

### SENDING PRAYER

Merciful God, renew in us the gift of baptism, that we may provide for those who are poor, pray for those in need, and fast from self-indulgence, that we may find our treasure in the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*Let us endeavor  
to put the  
traditional  
Lenten disciplines,  
prayer, fasting,  
and works of  
love, into practice  
that our words  
and deeds would  
reveal our Savior  
to the world.*

### BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN    *Jesus Lives, My Sure Defense* ELW 621:5-6

### DISMISSAL

Saved by faith and formed to serve in the name of Christ,  
go forth into the world to serve with gladness.  
Be of good courage, hold fast to that which is good;  
do not repay evil with evil; strengthen the fainthearted;  
support the weak; help the afflicted;  
honor all people; love and serve the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*May this season  
be a time of  
spiritual renewal,  
that creates a  
greater sense of  
God's presence  
with each person  
and with this  
community.*

POSTLUDE    *Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart*    Johann Friedrich Alberti

**FIRST LESSON          Ezekiel 37:1-14**

*Ezekiel's vision of the valley of dry bones is a promise that Israel as a nation, though dead in exile, will live again in their land through God's life-giving spirit. Three times Israel is assured that through this vision they will know that "I am the Lord."*

<sup>1</sup>The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. <sup>2</sup>He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. <sup>3</sup>He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." <sup>4</sup>Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. <sup>5</sup>Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. <sup>6</sup>I will lay sinews on you and will cause flesh to come upon you and cover you with skin and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the Lord."

<sup>7</sup>So I prophesied as I had been commanded, and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. <sup>8</sup>I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them, but there was no breath in them. <sup>9</sup>Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." <sup>10</sup>I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

<sup>11</sup>Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' <sup>12</sup>Therefore prophesy and say to them: Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people, and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. <sup>13</sup>And you shall know that I am the Lord when I open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people. <sup>14</sup>I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord."

*following the lesson*

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 130



I wait for you, O LORD; in your word is my hope.

Out of the depths

I cry to you, O LORD;

<sup>2</sup>O LORD, hear my voice!

Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication. **Refrain**

<sup>3</sup>If you were to keep watch over sins,

O LORD, who could stand?

<sup>4</sup>Yet with you is forgiveness,

in order that you may be feared. **Refrain**

<sup>5</sup>I wait for you, O LORD; my soul waits;

in your word is my hope.

<sup>6</sup>My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep watch for the morning,

more than those who keep watch for the morning. **Refrain**

<sup>7</sup>O Israel, wait for the LORD, for with the LORD there is steadfast love;

with the LORD there is plenteous redemption.

<sup>8</sup>For the LORD shall redeem Israel

from all their sins. **Refrain**

Reprinted from *Psalter for Worship*, copyright 2007 Augsburg Fortress.  
Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress.

## SECOND LESSON      Romans 8:6-11

*For Paul, Christian spirituality entails living in the reality of the Holy Spirit. The driving force behind our actions and values is not our sinful desire for self-satisfaction but the very Spirit by which God raised Jesus from the dead and will also raise us from the dead.*

<sup>6</sup>To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. <sup>7</sup>For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed, it cannot, <sup>8</sup>and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

<sup>9</sup>But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. <sup>10</sup>But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup>If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

*following the lesson*

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

***Return to page 5 for Gospel Acclamation***

**HOLY GOSPEL            John 11:1-45**

*Jesus is moved to sorrow when his friend Lazarus falls ill and dies. Then, in a dramatic scene, he calls his friend out of the tomb and restores him to life.*

*before the Gospel*

The Holy Gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

The Gospel is read.

*following the Gospel*

The Gospel of our Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

***Return to page 5 for the Return Acclamation***

### **Worship Leaders for March 22**

Assisting Minister: Richard Ferrara  
Communion Assistant: Nancy Kopka  
Lector: Jim Lingscheit  
Altar Guild: Gini Bunchek & Karol Evard  
Livestream: Lisa Shrader  
Ushers: Hank & Tracey Simpson

### **Worship Leaders for March 25 (6:30 PM)**

Candle Bearer: Rich Moellering  
Lector: Mary Moellering  
Ushers: Mary & Rich Moellering

### **Worship Leaders for March 29**

Assisting Minister: Joel Humphries  
Communion Assistant: Emily Richardson  
Lector: Julie Humphries  
Altar Guild: Marcia & Mark Wilson  
Livestream: Lena Picek  
Ushers: Dick & Susan Allison

### **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](mailto:giving@stjamesgp.org)

**Remember in Prayer** – The family of Bob Rimbo - Nancy Gurs - Laura Blake - 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.

**Got News?** Please send items 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 [office@stjamesgp.org](mailto:office@stjamesgp.org) no later than Tuesday.

### **FOR YOUR CALENDAR**

#### **Sunday, March 22**

*Lent 5*  
11am: Holy Eucharist  
Fellowship immediately following worship

#### **Monday, March 23**

Office Closed on Mondays  
4pm: Joyful Noise Children's Choir (at St. Paul)

#### **Tuesday, March 24**

8am: Men's Club Chorus (Undercroft)  
9am-12pm: Office Hours  
12pm: Noon Eucharist (at St. Paul)  
1pm: Book Club (at Jeanette Knutson's home)  
6:30pm: Council Meeting (Upstairs Lounge)

#### **Wednesday, March 25**

9am-1pm: Office Hours | *Pastor Grant's Office Day*  
12pm: Noon Eucharist  
4pm: Handbells (Sanctuary)  
4:30pm: Choir (Music Room)  
5:30pm: Lenten Supper (Gathering Area)  
6:30pm: Vespers Service | 7:15pm: Bible Study (Sanctuary)

#### **Thursday, March 26**

9am-12pm: Office Hours

#### **Friday, March 27**

Office Closed on Fridays | *Pastor's Day Off*

#### **Saturday, March 28**

Easter Egg Hunt

#### **Sunday, March 29**

*Palm Sunday*  
11am: Holy Eucharist - *worship begins in Gathering Area*  
Fellowship immediately following worship

#### **Monday, March 30**

Office Closed on Mondays  
4pm: Joyful Noise Children's Choir (at St. Paul)

#### **Tuesday, March 31**

8am: Men's Club Chorus (Undercroft)  
9am-12pm: Office Hours

#### **Wednesday, April 1**

9am-1pm: Office Hours | *Pastor Grant's Office Day*  
4pm: Handbells (Sanctuary)  
4:30pm: Choir (Music Room)

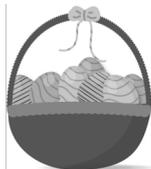
#### **Thursday, April 2**

9am-12pm: Office Hours  
7pm: Maundy Thursday **at St. Paul**

#### **Friday, April 3**

Office Closed on Fridays | *Pastor's Day Off*  
7pm: Good Friday **at Saint James**

*The Weekly Newsletter of Saint James Lutheran Church  
For the Week of March 22, 2026*



**EGG HUNT** Saint James is hosting an Easter Egg Hunt on **Saturday, March 28th**. Volunteers are needed to make & pass out candy bags, serve as crowd control and welcome visitors to Saint James. If you can help out or would like more information, please contact **Sarah Sutherland** via call or text (see your directory or contact the office for her phone number).

**CHURCH COUNCIL** The next church council meeting will take place on **Tuesday, March 24 at 6:30 PM** in the upstairs lounge. All members are welcome to attend any council meeting.

**BOOK CLUB** meets next on **Tuesday, March 24 at 1 PM** at Jeanette Knutson's home (see your directory or contact the office for the address). We will be reading *James* by Percival Everett. All are welcome to join for any month's discussion! April's selection is *None of This is True* by Lisa Jewell.

**LENT** On Wednesdays during Lent, join us at **12 PM** at Saint James for Eucharist weekly until **March 25**. Midday services will also be available weekly at **St. Paul** on **Tuesdays at 12 PM** until **March 24**.

On Wednesday evenings we will host supper at **5:30 PM**, Vespers at **6:30 PM** and Bible Study at **7:15 PM**. We will alternate each week between Saint James and St. Paul for supper, Vespers, and bible study. **March 25th will be held at Saint James**. Feel free to attend any or all of Wednesday evening's events — there is no expectation to attend all 3. **Please sign up for the suppers on the kiosk.** *This is the last week for Noon Eucharist & Vespers!*

**PRAYER SHAWLS** meets next on **Thursday, March 26 at 10 AM** in the second floor conference room. All knitters and crocheters are invited to attend!

**SPECIAL EASTER GIFTS** Saint James has a tradition of collecting monetary donations during the Lenten season. These gifts go towards ELCA World Hunger, Samaritas, our Easter Sunday floral arrangements and guest musicians on Easter Sunday. Please consider contributing to help with these non-budgeted expenses, it is greatly appreciated. One check should be made for the total of all gifts, made payable to Saint James Lutheran Church. Please fill out the Special Easter Gifts form (available in the front pews at church or linked here) and return the form and your check to the church office. Gifts received by **March 29th** will be acknowledged in the Easter bulletin.



**PALM SUNDAY is March 29th, 2026!** Journey through Holy Week with us beginning with 11 AM worship that Sunday. **Maundy Thursday** worship will be **7 PM** on **April 2** at **St. Paul**. **Good Friday** will be held at **7 PM** on **April 3** at **Saint James**. Our first Easter celebration is the **Easter Vigil** on **April 4** at **7 PM** at **St. Paul**. We will celebrate the resurrection on Easter Sunday, **April 5** at **11 AM**.