



Easter Sunday

April 5, 2026

SAINT JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH | stjamesgp.org | 313.884.0511
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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 is the day the Lord has made! Christ is risen, and through him all creation is made new! Indeed, "God shows no partiality" (Acts 10:34): Christ's resurrection truly brings life to everyone. We sing hymns of praise, gather around sacred words, and proclaim God's faithfulness, power, and love in the feast of holy communion. With the women at the tomb, we are astonished, elated, and grateful. We depart with joy to proclaim the good news of God's endless love.

WORSHIP & HOLY EUCHARIST

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

THE SACRAMENT

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. If you prefer to receive the sacrament in the pew, please let an usher know before worship.

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE *Airs for Trumpet and Organ*
Marie Mehler, Trumpet

Telemann/Glaser

STAND and face the procession.

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

GATHERING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

ENTRANCE HYMN

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

ELW 365

INVOCATION & APOSTOLIC GREETING

KYRIE

Notice the use of the word 'us.' This indicates that the Kyrie is a corporate (common to everyone) prayer in which together we pray for God's mercy and peace to be upon us and all people: our community, the Church, and the world.

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

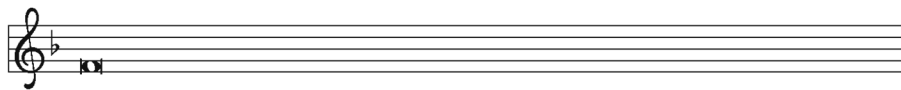
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

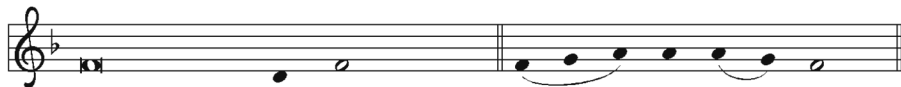
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

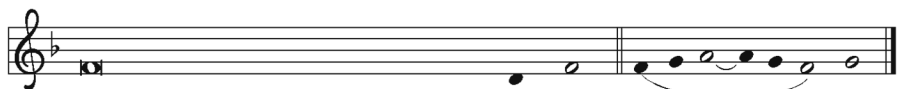
Lord, have mer - cy.



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.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain



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.

*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

FIRST LESSON

see page 13 of this bulletin

following the lesson

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The lessons appointed for today can be found in the latter part of this bulletin

PSALM

see page 14 of this bulletin

SECOND LESSON

see page 14 of this bulletin

following the lesson

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



STAND and SING

Verse: *Christ, our paschal lamb, has been sacrificed. Therefore, let us keep the feast.*
(1 Corinthians 5:7,8)

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.

REPEAT ALLELUIA

HOLY GOSPEL

see page 15 of this bulletin

before the Gospel

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glorify to you, O Lord.

following the Gospel

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The Holy Gospel is read amidst the people as a sign that our Risen Lord, the Word made flesh, the Redeemer of the world, is in our midst.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Christ Is Arisen* **ELW 372**

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

Christ is a - ris - en from the grave's dark pris - on. So let our joy rise
full and free; Christ our com-fort true will be. Al - le - lu - ia!
Were Christ not a - ris - en, then death were still our pris - on.
Now, with him to life re-stored, we praise the Fa-ther of our Lord. Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia! Now let our joy rise full and free;
Christ our com - fort true will be. Al - le - lu - ia!

SIT

HOMILY

STAND

HYMN OF THE DAY *This Joyful Eastertide* **ELW 391**

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

*In the Nicene Creed
we speak aloud the
fundamental beliefs
of the Church.*

**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.**

*This creed was
written in 325 CE
and has been used
continuously since
that time.*

**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.**

The sign of peace is a greeting between believers that invites the peace of God to dwell within and between each person. This means that sharing the peace is much more than an act of hospitality.

BE SEATED for the Special Music by the Saint James Handbells during Table Setting and STAND for Prayer as indicated by the Presider.

INTERCESSIONS

following each petition
Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

SHARING THE PEACE

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

TABLE SETTING

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today
Saint James Handbells

Patricia Cota

PRAYER

Risen Lord, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world. **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, and c) via Zelle app (QR code). Your gifts support the ministry of the church.

MEAL

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

The musical notation consists of four staves of music in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The notes are simple, mostly quarter and eighth notes, with some rests. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes.

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.

PREFACE

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. 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.

The musical notation consists of four staves of music in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The notes are more varied, including quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, with some rests. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes.

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

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.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

You are indeed holy, O God, the fountain of all holiness;
you bring light from darkness, life from death,
speech from silence.

We worship you for our lives and for the world you give us.
We thank you for the new world to come
and for the love that will rule all in all.

The prayer continues, including the Words of Institution

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

This acclamation, Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again, summarizes our understanding of the redemptive work of Jesus.



Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup
we remember the incarnation of your Son:
his human birth and the covenant he made with us.

the prayer continues

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honor and glory are yours Almighty Father, now and forever.

*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.*

LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Alleluia! The Lord has truly risen, and meets us in this holy meal.
Let us rejoice and be glad! Alleluia!

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.

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

DISTRIBUTION

CHOIR

Christ Our Passover

Robert Roth

HYMN

The Day of Resurrection

ELW 361

SIT

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

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

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.

SENDING

Having been strengthened in body, mind, and spirit by Jesus' body and blood, we are sent into the world to proclaim the power and the presence of the Risen Jesus.

SENDING PRAYER

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!* ELW 385

DISMISSAL

Go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Risen Lord!

Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

This Joyful Eastertide Michael Burkhardt

FIRST LESSON**Acts 10:34-43**

Peter's sermon, delivered at the home of Cornelius, a Roman army officer, is a summary of the essential message of Christianity: Everyone who believes in Jesus, whose life, death, and resurrection fulfilled the words of the prophets, receives forgiveness of sins through his name.

³⁴ Peter began to speak to [the people]: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵ but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶ You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷ That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹ We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰ but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹ not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴² He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

following the lesson

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The lessons continues on the next page

PSALM 118*This Is the Day*

Lynn Trapp

*The Psalm Refrain is sung by the choir; the congregation repeats it.**The verses are sung by the choir; the congregation joins on the Refrain.*

This is the day the Lord _ has made; let us re-joyce,

let us re-joyce, let us re-joyce, _ re - joyce and be glad.

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love endures forever.

Let the house of Israel say: "His love endures forever." **Refrain**

The hand of the Lord has struck with power; his right hand is exalted.

I shall not die, but live anew, declaring the works of the Lord. **Refrain**

The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.

By the Lord this has been done, it is wonderful in our eyes. **Refrain**© 1995 MorningStar Music Publishers.
All rights reserved. Used by permission.**THE SECOND LESSON Colossians 3:1-4***Easter means new life for us as it first meant new life for Christ. His resurrection reshapes the entire focus and motivation for our lives since we are now hidden with the risen Christ in God.*

¹ If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, ³ for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

following the lesson

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Return to page 5 for the Gospel Acclamation

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 28:1-10

Sorrow gives way to “fear and great joy” when two women are sent by an angel to proclaim the good news: Jesus is risen!

before the Gospel

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ² And suddenly there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³ His appearance was like lightning and his clothing white as snow. ⁴ For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. ⁵ But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. ⁶ He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷ Then go quickly and tell his disciples, ‘He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.’ This is my message for you.” ⁸ So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹ Suddenly Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers and sisters to go to Galilee; there they will see me.”

following the Gospel

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Return to page 6 for the Gospel Acclamation



Special Easter Gifts

The floral arrangements in our church today, additional gifts for World Hunger, Samaritas and gifts for special music this Easter season have been given by our members and friends. We gratefully acknowledge these generous gifts given by:

Dick & Susan Allison
Gus & Nancy Kopka
The Szelc Family
Jack & Marilyn Galsterer
Tom & Ellie Kressbach
Mark & Marcia Wilson
Henry & Holly Bryan, in memory of our parents Joan & Henry Bryan, John Proper
Emily Moellering
Gini Bunchek
The Richardson Family

and gifts from others not named here