



# Easter 2

April 12, 2026

SAINT JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH | [stjamesgp.org](http://stjamesgp.org) | 313.884.0511  
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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 the Pastor ([pastor@stjamesgp.org](mailto:pastor@stjamesgp.org)).

## TODAY'S SCRIPTURES

In today's gospel the risen Christ appears to the disciples and offers them the gift of peace. Even amid doubts and questions, we experience the resurrection in our Sunday gathering around word and meal, and in our everyday lives. Throughout the coming Sundays of Easter the first two readings will be from the Acts of the Apostles and the first letter of Peter. Even as the early Christians proclaimed the resurrection, we rejoice in the new birth and living hope we receive in baptism.

## 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

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PRELUDE *Allein Gott in der Höh sei Ehr* Johann Gottfried Walther

STAND and face the procession.

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

## GATHERING

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

ENTRANCE HYMN *Thine Is the Glory* ELW 376

## 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.

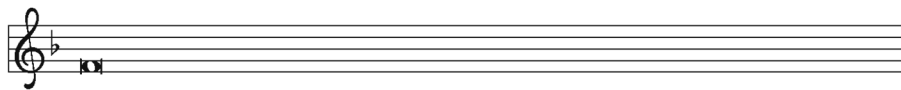
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

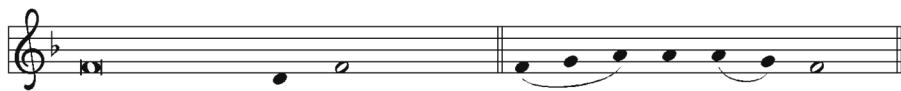
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

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

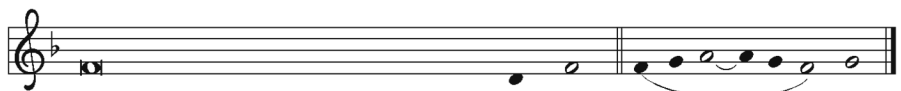
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



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.



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.

*The Hymn of Praise celebrates and gives 'glory to God' for the gift of Jesus, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.*

*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

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## WORD

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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

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le-lu-ia, al - le - lu - ia.

STAND and SING

**Verse:** *Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe. (John 20:29)*

*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 John.

**Glory 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 Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen! ELW 377:1**

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

The musical score is written in a single system with five staves. The key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en! Trum - pets re - sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light! Splen - dor, the Lamb, heav - en for - ev - er! Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight! Refrain Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise. Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!"

SIT

**HOMILY**

STAND

**HYMN OF THE DAY Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain ELW 363**

## 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.**

## INTERCESSIONS

*following each petition*

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

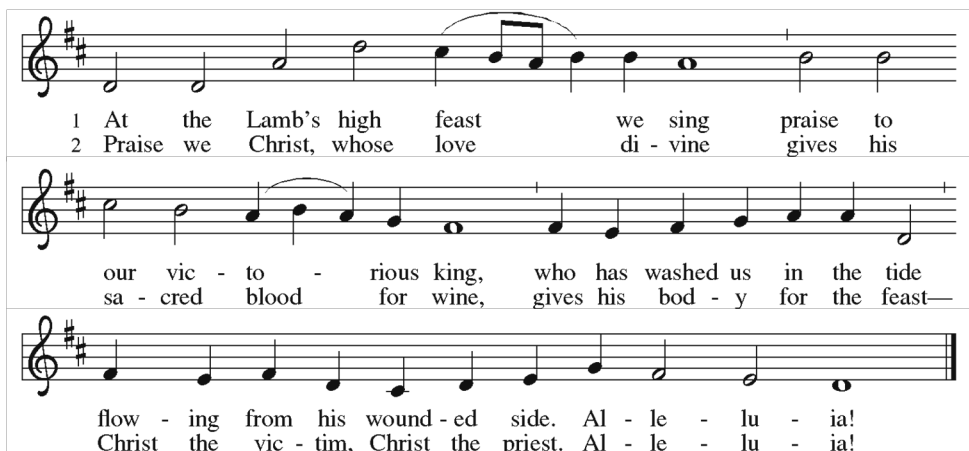
*The sign of peace  
is a greeting  
between  
believers that  
invites the peace  
of God to dwell  
within and  
between each  
person. This  
means that  
sharing the peace  
is much more  
than an act of  
hospitality.*

## SHARING THE PEACE

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

## TABLE SETTING

*At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing* ELW 362:1-2



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing praise to his  
2 Praise we Christ, whose love di - vine gives his

our vic - to - rious king, who has washed us in the tide  
sa - cred blood for wine, gives his bod - y for the feast—

flow - ing from his wound - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Christ the vic - tim. Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!

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

## MEAL

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### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

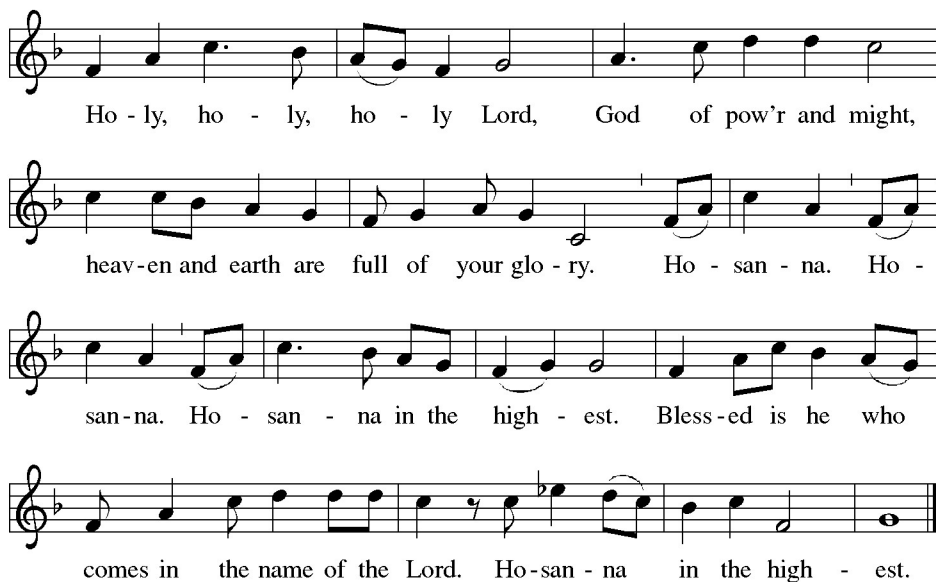
The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

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



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 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 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*



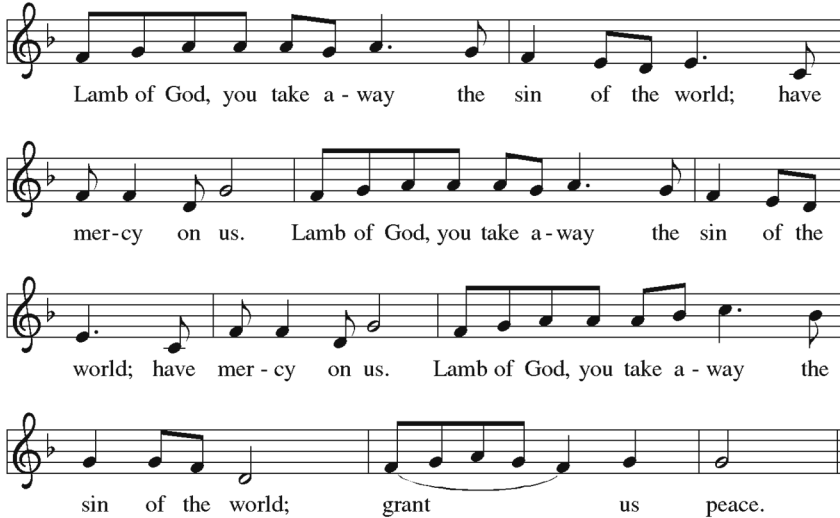
*The bread is broken and distributed for all. We share in the body and blood of Jesus, whose real presence is with us in this sacred meal.*

## **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

**HYMN**      *Now the Green Blade Rises*      **ELW 379**  
**HYMN**      *Peace to Soothe Our Bitter Woes*      **ELW 381**

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.

*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**

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### **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** *Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen* ELW 548:1, 4

### **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** *O Filii et Filiae* Jean-François Dandrieu

## FIRST LESSON

## Acts 2:14a, 22-32

*After the Holy Spirit comes to the apostles on Pentecost, Peter preaches the gospel to the gathered crowd. He tells them that Jesus, who obediently went to his death according to God's plan, was raised from the dead by God. Finally, he appeals to scripture, quoting Psalm 16:8-11, to show that Jesus is the Messiah: though crucified, the risen Jesus is now enthroned.*

<sup>14a</sup> Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]: <sup>22</sup> "Fellow Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know <sup>23</sup> this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and fore-knowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. <sup>24</sup> But God raised him up, having released him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. <sup>25</sup> For David says concerning him,

'I saw the Lord always before me,  
for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;  
<sup>26</sup> therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;  
moreover, my flesh will live in hope.

<sup>27</sup> For you will not abandon my soul to Hades  
or let your Holy One experience corruption.

<sup>28</sup> You have made known to me the ways of life;  
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'

<sup>29</sup> "Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. <sup>30</sup> Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne.

<sup>31</sup> Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

'He was not abandoned to Hades,  
nor did his flesh experience corruption.'

<sup>32</sup> "This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses."

*following the lesson*

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The lessons continues on the next page*

**PSALM 16**Sung to *O heilige Dreifaltigkeit*

Protect me, LORD, for I have said,  
“You are my good; none is like you;”  
The godly are my chief delight,  
Those who have noble hearts and true.

I bless the LORD who counsels me,  
My heart helps me to understand;  
I set the LORD always before,  
And as my guard at my right hand.

My heart and spirit both rejoice,  
My body, too, in hope shall lie;  
You will not leave me in the Pit,  
Nor in the grave with those who die.

You show me, LORD, the path of life,  
With you I find fullness of joy;  
The pleasures found at your right hand  
Are those which time cannot destroy.

A New Metrical Psalter  
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**THE SECOND LESSON      1 Peter 1:3-9**

*This epistle was written to encourage Christians experiencing hardships and suffering because of their faith in Christ. The letter opens by blessing God for the living hope we have through Christ’s resurrection even amid difficult circumstances and surroundings.*

<sup>3</sup> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead <sup>4</sup> and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup> who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. <sup>6</sup> In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, <sup>7</sup> so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. <sup>8</sup> Although you have not seen him, you love him, and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, <sup>9</sup> for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

*following the lesson*

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

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

**HOLY GOSPEL**

**John 20:19-31**

*The risen Jesus appears to his disciples, offering them a benediction, a commission, and the gift of the Holy Spirit. But one of their number is missing, and his unbelief prompts another visit from the Lord.*

*before the Gospel*

The Holy Gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>19</sup> When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>20</sup> After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." <sup>22</sup> When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup> If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

<sup>24</sup> But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup> So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

<sup>26</sup> A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>27</sup> Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." <sup>28</sup> Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup> Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

<sup>30</sup> Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup> But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

*following the Gospel*

The Gospel of our Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

***Return to page 6 for the Gospel Acclamation***

*The Weekly Newsletter of Saint James Lutheran Church  
For the Week of April 12, 2026*



**SPECIAL EASTER GIFTS** Thank you to all who donated towards the floral arrangements and special music on Easter, as well as to Samaritas and World Hunger. Your gifts help offset these non-budgeted expenses and are greatly appreciated!

**WOMEN OF THE WORD** meets next on **Tuesday, April 14** at **1 PM** in the Meditation Room. This women's bible study meets monthly and all women are welcome to attend. Contact **Nancy Kopka** for more information.

**CHURCH COUNCIL** The next church council meeting will be held on **Tuesday, April 14** at **6:30 PM**. All members are welcome to attend.

**MEMORIAL SERVICE** The memorial service for **Nancy Swartz** will be held at Saint James on **Saturday, April 18** at **10 AM**.

**PASTOR'S VACATION** Pastor Grant will be taking vacation time from **Sunday, April 19** through **Wednesday, April 29**. Please contact the office or Council President **Andrew Picek** if you have any pastoral needs while she is away. She can be reached via phone, text & email when she returns on **April 30**. Bill Wrobel will lead us in worship on April 19 and on April 26 we welcome Paul Archer back to Saint James.

**LUTHER LEAGUE** The St. Paul Luther League Youth Group has their next outing on **Sunday, April 19**. All Saint James youth & their friends, grades 5-12 are welcome to attend! The group will be going to mini golf at the **Royal Oak Golf Center** from **2-4 PM**. Please RSVP to **Suzanne Powell** no later than **Saturday, April 18**. Friends are welcome to join, but all youth will need a signed transportation and medical waiver. Please contact the office for Suzanne's contact information.

**PRAYER SHAWLS** meets next on **Thursday, April 23** at **10 AM** at Saint James in the small conference room on the second floor. All knitters and crocheters are welcome!



**BOOK CLUB** meets next on **Tuesday, April 28** at **1 PM** at Gini Bunchek's home (see your directory or contact the office for the address). We will be reading *None of This is True* by Lisa Jewell. All are welcome to join for any month's discussion!

**SYNOD ASSEMBLY** The annual Synod Assembly will take place on **May 29-30** at St. John's Lutheran Church in Farmington Hills. Saint James needs to send 2 representatives from our congregation. Please contact the Office or Pastor Grant by **May 7** if you are interested in attending.

**LOOKING AHEAD** Mark your calendars! Our Summer Schedule will begin on **Sunday, May 31** with combined worship at **10 AM** at **Saint James**. We will alternate between Saint James and St. Paul each week. A printed schedule will be available when we get closer to summer. On **Sunday, June 7** we will have Jazz style worship at St. Paul in the morning followed by our annual jazz concert with **Planet D Nonet** at Saint James in the afternoon.