



Easter 4

April 26, 2026

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

Today is sometimes called "Good Shepherd Sunday." Jesus is called the "gate" of the sheep in today's gospel. The risen Christ opens the way to abundant life. He anoints our heads with oil and guides us beside the still waters of our baptism. Each Sunday he spreads a feast before us amid the world's violence and war. We go forth to be signs of the resurrection and extend God's tender care to all creation.

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

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

Charles Callahan

GATHERING

STAND and face the procession.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

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

ENTRANCE HYMN *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia!* ELW 369

INVOCATION & APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

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.

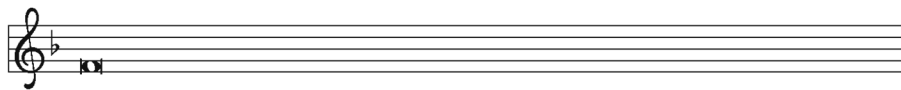
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

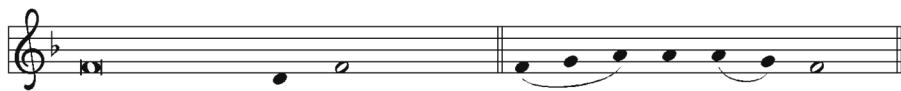
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

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

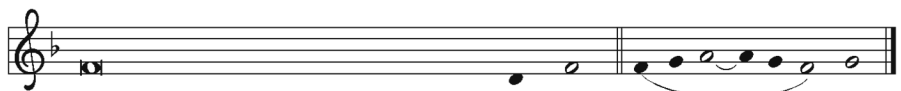
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



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.

Refrain



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

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: *Jesus says, I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me. (John 10:14)*

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 treble clef with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and a common time signature. It consists of six staves of music. 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 *The King of Love My Shepherd Is* ELW 502

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, and c) via Zelle app (QR code). Your gifts support the ministry of the church.

MEAL

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

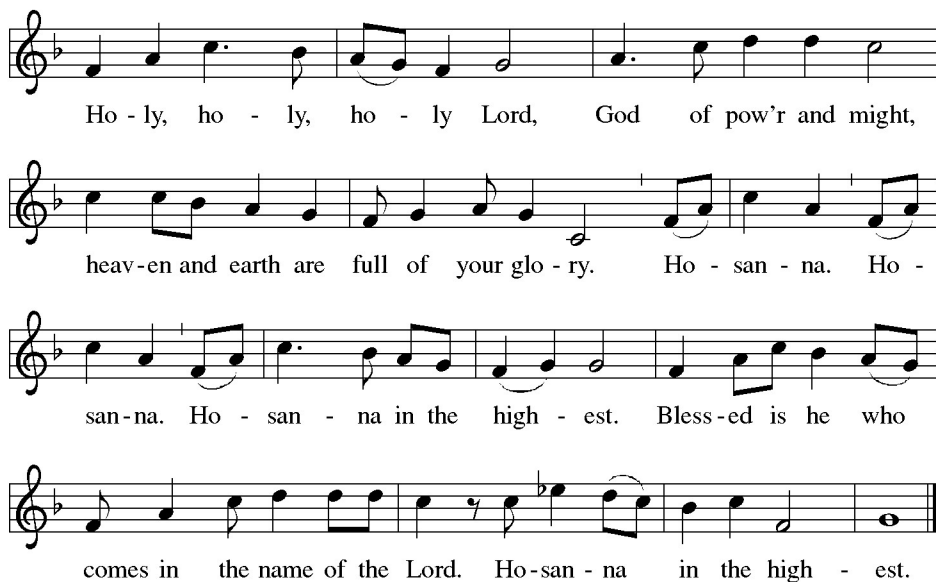
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

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*



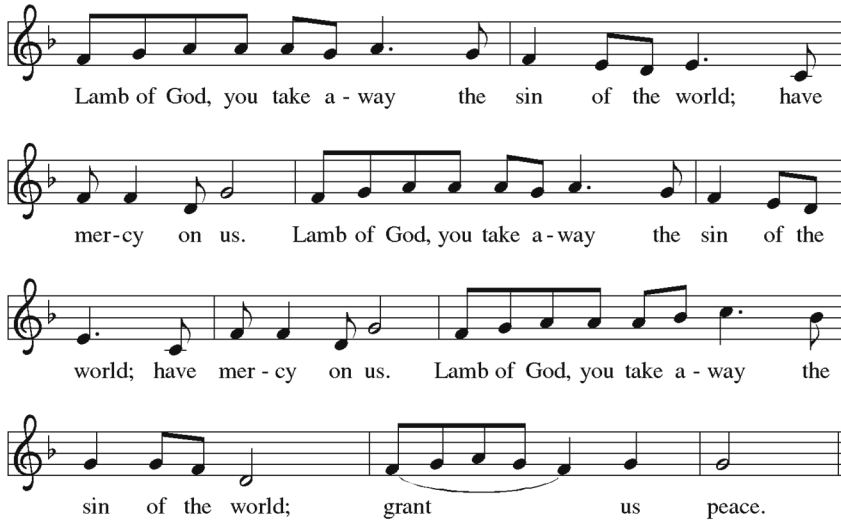
*The bread is broken and distributed for all.
We share in the body and blood of Jesus, whose real presence is with us in this sacred meal.*

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

CHOIR *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us* William B. Roberts
HYMN *The Lord's My Shepherd* ELW 778

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 *Praise the Lord, Rise Up Rejoicing* **ELW 544**

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

Prelude and Fugue in F

Vincent Lübeck

FIRST LESSON**Acts 2:42-47**

Today's reading is a description of life in the community following Peter's sermon on the day of Pentecost, when the Spirit was poured out on God's people. The new community is sustained in worship and fellowship, shares what they have, and ensures that everyone has enough.

⁴² [The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

⁴³ Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴ All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵ they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶ Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

following the lesson

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

.

The lessons continues on the next page

PSALM 23

The LORD is my shep-herd; I shall not be in want.

The LORD¹ is my shepherd;
I shall not¹ be in want.

²The LORD makes me lie down¹ in green pastures
and leads me be-¹side still waters.

³You restore my¹ soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways¹ for your name's sake.

⁴Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall¹ fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they¹ comfort me.

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence¹ of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is¹ running over.

⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days¹ of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the¹ LORD forever. *Refrain*

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THE SECOND LESSON 1 Peter 2:19-25

Doing the right things does not guarantee that one will not experience difficulties, hardships, rejection, or even suffering. Here Christ is presented as the model for our path of endurance and loyalty to God, particularly amid adversity.

¹⁹ It is a commendable thing if, being aware of God, a person endures pain while suffering unjustly. ²⁰ If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do good and suffer for it, this is a commendable thing before God. ²¹ For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

²² "He committed no sin,
and no deceit was found in his mouth."

²³ When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. ²⁴ He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you

have been healed. ²⁵ For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian 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 10:1-10

Jesus uses an image familiar to the people of his day to make a point about spiritual leadership. Those who listen to Jesus are led to abundant life.

before the Gospel

The Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹ “Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ² The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³ The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴ When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵ They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶ Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷ So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸ All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹ I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

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 26, 2026*



WELCOME back to Licensed Lay Minister Paul Archer who is filling in this morning while Pastor Grant is taking vacation time. Thank you Paul for leading us in worship today!

PASTOR'S VACATION Pastor Grant is taking vacation time 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**.



BOOK CLUB meets next on **Tuesday, April 28** at **1 PM** at Gini Bunchek's home (contact the office or see your directory 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!

CHURCH COUNCIL The next church council meeting will be held on **Tuesday, May 19** at **6:30 PM** in the second floor lounge. All members are welcome to attend any council meeting.



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.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS the Spring Congregation Meeting will be held on **June 14th** immediately following worship. Please plan to attend this important meeting, the agenda includes a review of our year-to-date financials and approving the Council slate for the new council term beginning on July 1. If you are interested in serving on Council, please contact **Andrew Picek**.

SUMMER SCHEDULE CHANGE we will begin our Summer Schedule early due to Pastor Grant recovering from her back injury. The schedule begins next **Sunday, May 3** at **St. Paul** at **10 AM**. Each week there will be one worship service at 10 AM, either at Saint James or St. Paul. St. Paul is located at 375 Lothrop Rd (at Chalfonte) in Grosse Pointe Farms. We will begin alternating every other week between the two churches on **May 31**. The schedule for May 3-31 is below, and the full schedule can be found on the kiosk, near the office, and in your Saturday eNews. Copies are available to take with you on the front pews.

All services are at 10 AM

May 3 at St. Paul (Jubilate Worship)

May 10 at Saint James

May 17 at St. Paul (with First Holy Communion)

May 24 at Saint James (Pentecost — Wear Red, Choir sings & Bells ring)

May 31 at Saint James (Holy Trinity Sunday)

The full schedule is available on the kiosk