



Pentecost 13

August 23, 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 the Risen Lord 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).

TODAY'S SCRIPTURES

In Isaiah the people are advised to look to their spiritual ancestors as the rock from which they were hewn. Jesus declares that the church will be built on the rock of Peter's bold confession of faith. God's word of reconciliation and God's mercy are keys to the church's mission. Paul urges us to not be conformed to this world but to offer our bodies as a living sacrifice, using our individual gifts to build up the body of Christ. From the table we go forth to offer our spiritual worship through word and deed.

WORSHIP & HOLY EUCHARIST

All of the materials needed for this liturgy can be found in this bulletin and in the red *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (ELW) book 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. As host of the meal, Jesus extends a wide welcome for all to participate. Distribution information is found on page 10. If you would prefer to commune in the pew, please alert an usher prior to the start of worship.

NEXT SUNDAY Worship at St. Paul at 10:00 a.m.

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE *Built on a Rock* Robert J. Powell

GATHERING

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

STAND

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

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

Bathed with the waters of baptism and clothed with the assurance of
God's grace, let us come before God to confess our sins.

silence for reflection and confession

Compassionate God,
**we confess to you all our sins; those things done, and those things
left undone. The burden of sin is heavy, and we cannot free
ourselves.**

**In your mercy, call us back to you.
Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.
Restore us to dwell in your peace.
In Christ's name we pray, Amen.**

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

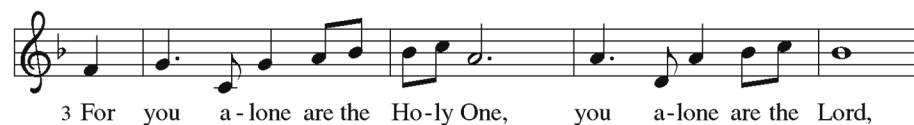
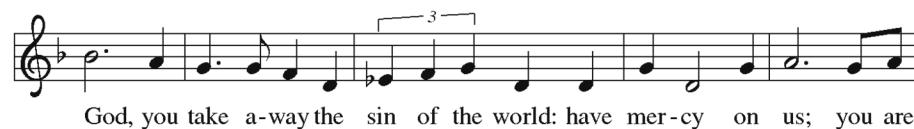
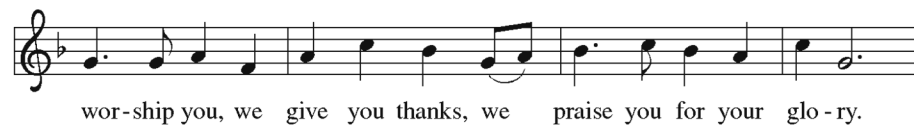
Since we are justified by faith,
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
and have received grace in which we stand.
Therefore, your sins + are forgiven;
By the power of Jesus death and resurrection
you are dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

ENTRANCE HYMN *Built on a Rock* **ELW 652:1-3**

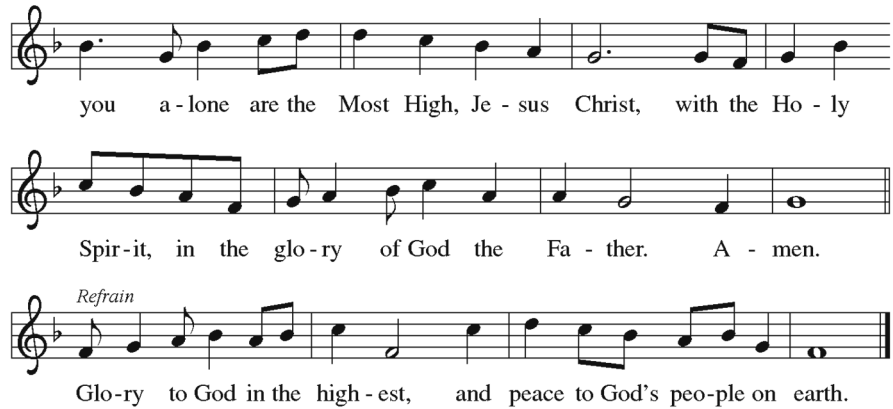
APOSTOLIC GREETING

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE



Drawn from the hymns in the book of Revelation, the words of this hymn of praise joins Passover and Easter with a glimpse of the kingdom now, and reign of God yet to come.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

SIT

WORD

FIRST LESSON

see page 12 of this bulletin

following the lesson

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

see page 13 of this bulletin

SECOND LESSON

see page 13 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, al - le - lu - ia.

STAND & SING as the procession moves to the center of the sanctuary.

Verse: *You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God. (Matt. 16:16)*

REPEAT ALLELUIA

HOLY GOSPEL

see page 14 of this bulletin

before the Gospel

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The Holy Gospel (God's Word) is a reminder that our Lord is in our midst.

after the Gospel

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

I Word of God, come down on earth, liv - ing rain from
heav'n de-scend - ing; touch our hearts and bring to birth
faith and hope and love un - end - ing. Word al - might - y,
we re - vere you; Word made flesh, we long to hear you.

The procession returns to the chancel as the Acclamation is sung by ALL.

chancel: *the front of the sanctuary (the entire worship space) where Word and Sacrament is celebrated. The Word is proclaimed in reading, preaching and singing.*

SIT **HOMILY**

STAND **HYMN OF THE DAY** *The Church's One Foundation* **ELW 654**

APOSTLES CREED

*The Creed is a
statement of what
Christian people
believe about God.*

**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.**

*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 or
hello.*

**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.**

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

TABLE SETTING***In the Singing*****ELW 466**

1 In the sing - ing, in the si - lence, in the hands ex - pect - ant, o - pen,
2 In the ques - tion, in the an - swer, in the mo - ment of ac - cept - ance,



in the bless - ing, in the break - ing, in your pres - ence at this ta - ble,
in the heart's cry, in the heal - ing, in the cir - cle of your peo - ple,



Je - sus Christ, Je - sus Christ, be the wine of grace;



Je - sus Christ, Je - sus Christ, be the bread of peace.

Text: Shirley Erena Murray, b. 1931

Music: BREAD OF PEACE, Carlton R. Young, b. 1926

Text and music © 1996 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

REMAIN
STANDING & SING
*as the ushers bring
the gifts of bread
and wine forward
as the table is set.*

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.

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 his kindness and love.

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

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
 that we should at all times and in all places
 give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God
 through our Savior Jesus Christ;
 who overcame death and the grave,
 and by his glorious resurrection
 opened to us the way of everlasting life.
 And so with all the choirs of angels,
 with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven
 we praise your name and join there unending hymn:

SANCTUS (Holy, Holy, Holy)

The Sanctus (sanctus, Latin, means holy) 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, God of pow-er and might,
 heav-en 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC 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 God Almighty,
not as we ought but as we are able;

we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving
and with your Word and Holy Spirit 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 the Father and creator; for Jesus who saves and redeems us; and for the Holy Spirit that stirs and enlightens our faith that we might proclaim the mighty work of God in word and deed.

The word eucharist means 'thanksgiving.' When we use this term for the sacrament the emphasis is on the joy and celebration with which we thank the Risen Lord Jesus for his real presence as we receive his body and blood.

In these first words God would encourage us to believe that he is truly our Father and we are truly his children in order that we may approach him boldly and confidently in prayer, even as beloved children approach their dear father.

(Luther's Small Catechism Introduction to the Lord's Prayer)

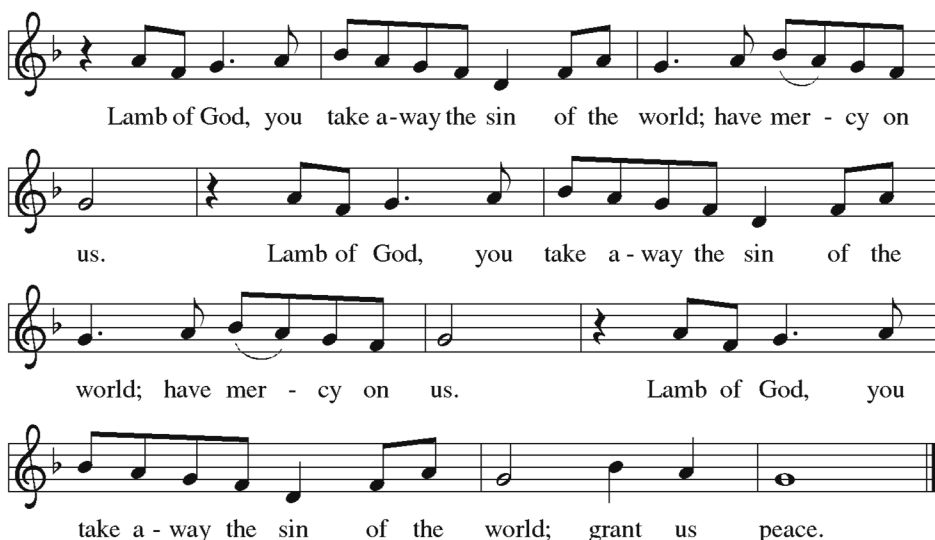
LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven...

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

In Christ's presence there is fullness of joy.
Come to the banquet.
Let us rejoice and be glad.

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.

SIT

DISTRIBUTION

HYMN

O Savior, Precious Savior

ELW 820

STAND

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

SENDING

SENDING PRAYER

O Lord, we thank you for your Spirit who calls, gathers, enlightens and sanctifies us by the means of grace. As we have received you in this meal, so send us out that we may faithfully feed others with the presence of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

BENEDICTION

HYMN *Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation* ELW 645:1,4

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the Good News!
Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE *Trumpet Tune on “Westminster Abbey”*
Richard Proulx

SAINT JAMES COMMUNION PRACTICE	
Welcome	Saint James practices an open table for Holy Communion, which means that <u>all people are invited to participate in the sacrament</u> . 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.
Benefit	What is the benefit of sharing in the meal? The words “given for you” and “shed for you” show us that the forgiveness of sin, life, and salvation are given to us in the sacrament. (Luther’s Small Catechism)
Distribution	Come forward via the central aisle. Receive the host (bread/Jesus’ body) in the hand, 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. Return to your place via the outside aisles for private prayer.

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 51:1-6

Just as God had called Abraham and Sarah and given them many descendants, so now God offers comfort to Zion. God's deliverance will come soon and will never end.

¹ Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness,
you who seek the LORD.
Look to the rock from which you were hewn
and to the quarry from which you were dug.

² Look to Abraham your father
and to Sarah, who bore you,
for he was but one when I called him,
but I blessed him and made him many.

³ For the LORD will comfort Zion;
he will comfort all her waste places
and will make her wilderness like Eden,
her desert like the garden of the LORD;
joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the voice of song.

⁴ Listen to me, my people,
and give heed to me, my nation,
for a teaching will go out from me
and my justice for a light to the peoples.

⁵ I will bring near my deliverance swiftly;
my salvation has gone out,
and my arms will rule the peoples;
the coastlands wait for me,
and for my arm they hope.

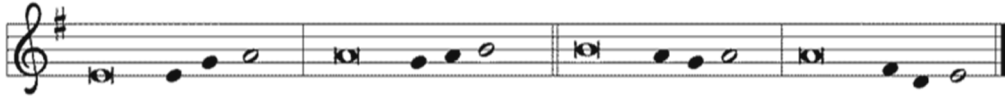
⁶ Lift up your eyes to the heavens
and look at the earth beneath,
for the heavens will vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment,
and those who live on it will die like gnats,
but my salvation will be forever,
and my deliverance will never be ended.

following the lesson

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 138



I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with ¹ my whole heart;
before the gods I will ¹ sing your praise.

²I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name,
because of your steadfast ¹ love and faithfulness;
for you have glorified your name and your word a- ¹ bove all things.

³**When I called, you ¹ answered me;**
you increased my ¹ strength within me.

⁴**All the rulers of the earth will praise ¹ you, O LORD,**
when they have heard the words ¹ of your mouth. Refrain

⁵They will sing of the ways ¹ of the LORD,
that great is the glory ¹ of the LORD.

⁶The LORD is high, yet cares ¹ for the lowly,
perceiving the haughty ¹ from afar.

⁷**Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you ¹ keep me safe;**
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies;
your right ¹ hand shall save me.

⁸**You will make good your pur- ¹ pose for me;**
O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever;
do not abandon the works ¹ of your hands. Refrain

Reprinted from *Psalter for Worship*, copyright 2007 Augsburg Fortress.
May be reproduced by permission for local use only.

SECOND LESSON

Romans 12:1-8

In response to God's merciful activity, we are to worship by living holistic, God-pleasing lives. Our values and viewpoints are not molded by the time in which we live but are transformed by the Spirit's renewing work. God's grace empowers different forms of service among Christians, but all forms of ministry function to build up the body of Christ.

¹ I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. ² Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴ For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function, ⁵ so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶ We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸ the encourager, in encouragement; the giver, in sincerity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

following the lesson

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Return to page 5 for the Gospel Acclamation

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 16:13-20

At a climactic point in Jesus' ministry, God reveals to Peter that Jesus is "the Messiah, the Son of the living God," and Jesus responds with the promise of a church that will overcome the very gates of Hades.

before the Gospel

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴ And they said, "Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵ He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." ²⁰ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

after the Gospel

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

tion

Return to page 5 for the Gospel Acclamation

Worship Leaders for August 23 (10 AM)

Assisting Minister: Sue Stieber
Crucifer: Andrew Picek
Communion Assistant: Nancy Kopka
Lector: Arnold Brammeier
Altar Guild: Marcia and Mark Wilson
Livestream: Lena Picek
Ushers: Barb and Ray Radtke

August 30 — 10 AM at St. Paul

Worship Leaders for September 6 (10 AM)

Assisting Minister: **Volunteer Needed!**
Crucifer: **Volunteer Needed!**
Communion Assistant: Sammie Bessner
Lector: Jim Lingscheit
Altar Guild: Karol Evard
Livestream: Emily Richardson
Ushers: Arnold Brammeier & Ruth Richardson

Full August schedule available 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 – Barbara Crowther (Ray Radtke's sister) - Dale Marshall - 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 no later than Tuesday.

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Sunday, August 23

Pentecost 13

10am: Holy Eucharist (**at Saint James**)
Fellowship immediately following worship

Monday, August 24

Office Closed on Mondays

Tuesday, August 25

8am: Men's Club Chorus (Undercroft)
9am-12pm: Office Hours
1pm: Book Club (at Jeanette Knutson's home)

Wednesday, August 26

Pastor Grant's Office Day

9am-1pm: Office Hours

Thursday, August 27

9am-12pm: Office Hours

Friday, August 28

Pastor's Day Off

Office Closed on Fridays

Sunday, August 30

Pentecost 14

10am: Holy Eucharist (**at St. Paul**)
Fellowship immediately following worship

Monday, August 31

Office Closed on Mondays

Tuesday, September 1

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

Wednesday, September 2

Pastor Grant's Office Day

9am-1pm: Office Hours

Thursday, September 3

9am-12pm: Office Hours

Friday, September 4

Pastor's Day Off

Office Closed on Fridays

Sunday, September 6

Pentecost 15

10am: Holy Eucharist (**at Saint James**)
Fellowship immediately following worship

Monday, September 7

Labor Day | Office Closed on Mondays

LOOKING AHEAD:

Sept. 13 — Return to 9am Worship at St. Paul and 11am Worship at Saint James

The Weekly Newsletter of Saint James Lutheran Church For the Week of August 23, 2026



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!

BOOK CLUB Meets next on **Tuesday, August 25** at **1 PM** at Jeanette Knutson's home. We will be discussing *All the Glimmering Stars* by Mark Sullivan. All are welcome! In September, we will be meeting at Shelly Thorp's on **September 22** to discuss *A Thousand Splendid Suns* by Khaled Hosseini. Contact **Nancy Kopka** with questions.



CHURCH DIRECTORY Printed copies of the newly updated church directory are available on the front pews. Please contact **Emily Richardson** (office@stjamesgp.org) from your email address on file to request a digital (PDF) copy. Current copies say "Updated July 29, 2026" on the front. Please discard any old copies you have.

WOMEN OF THE WORD Our monthly Women's bible study meets next on **Tuesday, September 8** at **1 PM** in the Meditation Room. All women are welcome to join any month, please contact **Nancy Kopka** with questions.

MUSIC REHEARSALS Resume on **Wednesday, September 9**. Handbells will meet weekly on Wednesdays at **4 PM** in the Sanctuary. Choir will meet weekly at **4:40 PM** in the Music Room in the basement. New ringers and singers are always welcome! Contact **Kurt Heyer** to learn more.

MEN'S BIBLE BREAKFAST The St. Paul/Saint James Men's Bible Breakfast meets on the second Wednesday of each month at **8 AM** at the **National Coney Island** at Mack & Moross. September's meeting will be held on **Wednesday, September 9**. All men are welcome, come check it out!



RUMMAGE SALE The St. Paul Annual Rummage Sale will be held on **September 11th** from **9 AM-4 PM** & **September 12th** from **9 AM-3 PM** in the St. Paul basement. September 12 will be the half-price day. Donations for the sale are welcome now through **August 31**, and can be dropped off at St. Paul **Mondays** from **6-8 PM**, **Tuesdays** from **10 AM-2 PM** and **Thursdays** from **10 AM-2 PM**. Please contact sp.rummage@gmail.com with any questions!

SUMMER SCHEDULE our Summer Schedule continues next week **Sunday, Aug. 30** 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 return to our normal schedule on **Sunday, September 13**.

All services are at 10 AM
Aug. 30 at St. Paul

Sept. 6 at Saint James — final summer schedule service!

Sept. 13 — return to normal schedule: 11 AM at Saint James | 9 AM at St. Paul