



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

Conflict is a part of relationships and life in community. Jesus' words in today's gospel are often used in situations having to do with church discipline. The prophet Ezekiel tells of warning the wicked to turn from their ways, and Paul reminds us that love is the fulfilling of the law. We gather in the name of Christ, assured that he is present among us with gifts of peace and reconciliation.

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 (9/13)

Worship here at Saint James begins at 11:00 a.m.
Worship is at St. Paul at 9:00am.

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Largo

Vivaldi

STAND

GATHERING

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

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

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

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

silence for reflection & personal confession

Compassionate God,

**we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness
in the world and in our own hearts.**

Creation groans from overuse.

Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.

Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.

Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others.

Turn our hearts back to you.

Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.

**Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

+

indicates that the sign of the cross may be made here to remember the gift of forgiveness that Jesus has given to us through his death and resurrection.

This is the good news:

We have peace with God through Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness + and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace. **Amen.**

ENTRANCE HYMN *God, When Human Bonds Are Broken* ELW 603

APOSTOLIC GREETING

The ELW (Evangelical Lutheran Worship) is the red worship book in the pew rack. In the ELW,

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

Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



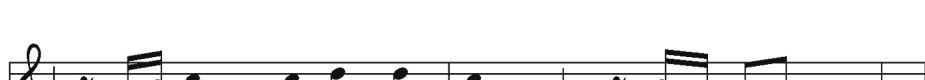
you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



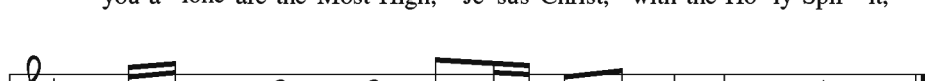
you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Drawn from John 1:29, the hymn of praise gives thanks for Jesus, who is the Lamb of God, whose sacrificial death has taken away the sins of the world.

Blessed are all who worship God, hear The Word, and share in the Holy Meal.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, 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 12 of this bulletin

SECOND LESSON

see page 13 of this bulletin

following the lesson

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA

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



Verse: *In Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. 2 Cor 5:19*

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.

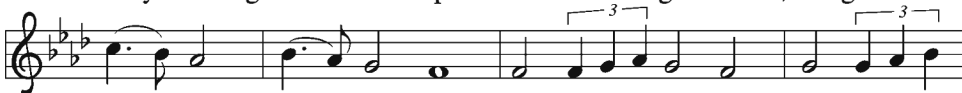
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Thy Strong Word

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



3 Thy strong Word be - speaks us righ - teous; bright with



thine own ho - li - ness, glo - rious now, we press toward



glo - ry, and our lives our hopes con - fess.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise to thee who light dost send!



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!

HOMILY

SIT

HYMN OF THE DAY

Where Charity and Love Prevail

ELW 359

STAND

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.

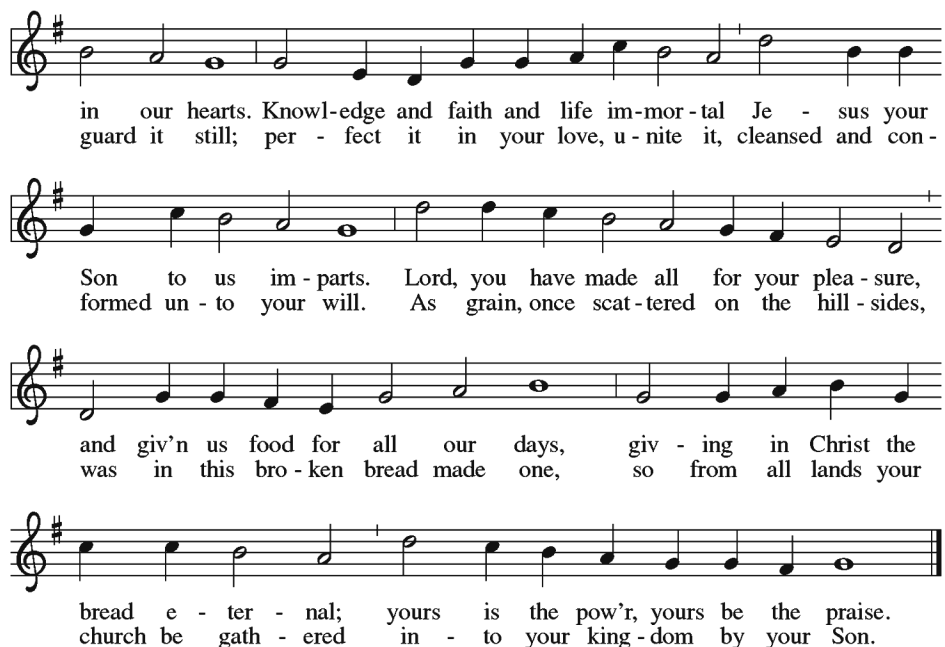
TABLE SETTING

Father, We Thank You

ELW 478

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

1 Fa - ther, we thank you that you plant - ed your ho - ly name with -
2 Watch o'er your church, O Lord, in mer - cy, save it from e - vil,



in our hearts. Knowl-edge and faith and life im-mor-tal Je - sus your
guard it still; per - fect it in your love, u - nite it, cleansed and con -

Son to us im - parts. Lord, you have made all for your plea - sure,
formed un - to your will. As grain, once scat - tered on the hill - sides,

and giv'n us food for all our days, giv - ing in Christ the
was in this bro - ken bread made one, so from all lands your

bread e - ter - nal; yours is the pow'r, yours be the praise.
church be gath - ered in - to your king - dom by your Son.

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

Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; para. F. Bland Tucker, 1895–1984, alt.
Music: RENDEZ A DIEU, attr. Louis Bourgeois, 1510–1561
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PRAYER

Blessed are you, O Lord, creator of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through 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.

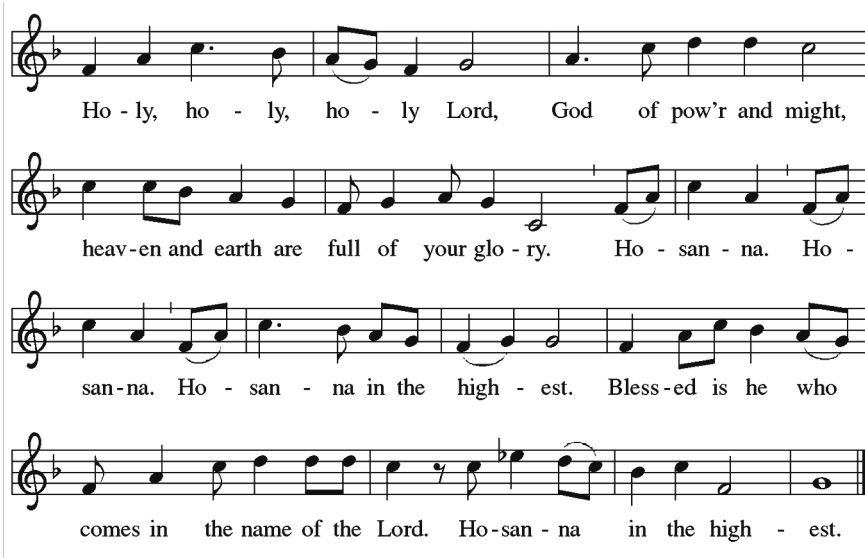
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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'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.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

The Words of Institution are spoken.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and
ascension, we await his coming in glory, as we proclaim the
mystery of faith:



Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever.



LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven...

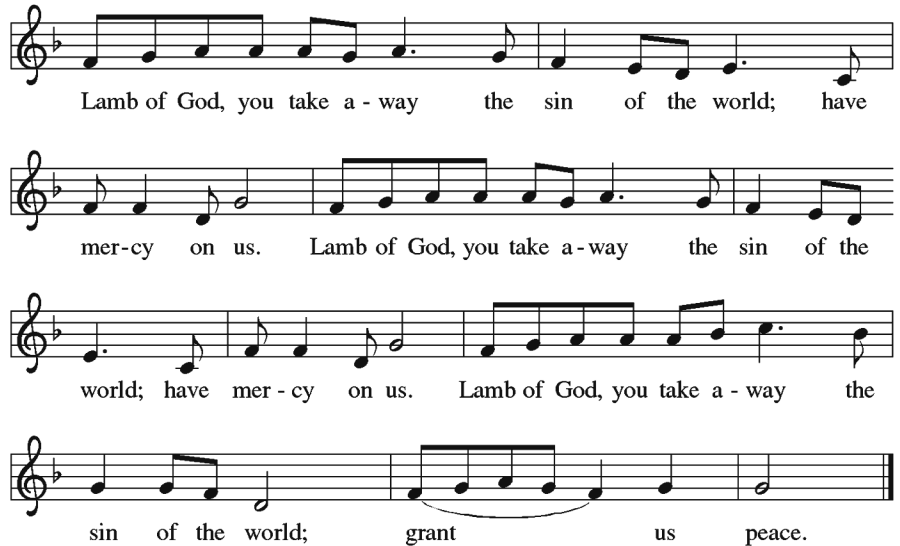
THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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

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.

LAMB OF GOD



SIT

DISTRIBUTION

HYMN

Blest Be the Ties That Bind

ELW 656

STAND

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

SENDING

SENDING PRAYER

Sustaining God,
with this bread and cup,
you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.
By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.
Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,
following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.
Amen.

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

BENEDICTION

HYMN *Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven* ELW 864

DISMISSAL

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

SIT
*for final prayer
and reflection
before going into
the world to shar
the good news.*

POSTLUDE *Recessional (Bourée)* Raymond H. Haan

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

Ezekiel 33:7-11

God appointed Ezekiel as a sentinel for the house of Israel. Ezekiel must faithfully convey God's warnings to the people. Remarkably, God—who is about to attack Jerusalem—gives a warning with the hope that repentance will make the attack unnecessary.

⁷ So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸ If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die," and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. ⁹ But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

¹⁰ Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel: Thus you have said: "Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?" ¹¹ Say to them: As I live, says the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

following the lesson

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 119:33-40

Michael Burkhardt



Teach me, O LORD, the way of your com - mand - ments.

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Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes,
and I shall keep it to the end.

³⁴ Give me understanding, and I shall keep your teaching;
I shall keep it with all my heart.

³⁵ Lead me in the path of your commandments,

for that is my desire.
³⁶Incline my heart to your decrees
 and not to unjust gain. **Refrain**
³⁷Turn my eyes from beholding falsehood;
 give me life in your way.
³⁸Fulfill your promise to your servant,
 which is for those who fear you.
³⁹Turn away the reproach that I dread,
 because your judgments are good.
⁴⁰Behold, I long for your commandments;
 by your righteousness enliven me. **Refrain**

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SECOND LESSON

Romans 13:8-14

The obligation of Christians is to love one another and so fulfill the heart and goal of the law. Clothes make the person as we “put on the Lord Jesus Christ” and live today in light of the future God has in store for us.

⁸ Owe no one anything, except to love one another, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹ The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; you shall not murder; you shall not steal; you shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰ Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹ Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹² the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³ let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴ Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

following the lesson

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Return to page 5 for the Gospel Acclamation

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 18:15-20

Jesus offers practical advice to his disciples on how individuals—and the church as a whole—should go about restoring relationships when one member has sinned against another.

before the Gospel

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵ “If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one. ¹⁶ But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷ If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸ Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹ Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

after the Gospel

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Return to page 5 for the Gospel Acclamation

Worship Leaders for September 6 (10 AM)

Assisting Minister: Bill Wrobel
Crucifer: Bill Wrobel
Communion Assistant: Sammie Bessner
Lector: Jim Lingscheit
Altar Guild: Karol Evard
Livestream: Emily Richardson
Ushers: Arnold Brammeier & Ruth Richardson

Worship Leaders for September 13 (11 AM)

Assisting Minister: Sue Stieber
Crucifer: Andrew Picek
Communion Assistant: Gini Bunchek
Lector: Nancy Kopka
Altar Guild: Sue Carson
Livestream: Lena Picek
Ushers: Marcia & Mark Wilson

Full September 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 at 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, September 6

Pentecost 15

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

Monday, September 7

Labor Day | Office Closed on Mondays

Tuesday, September 8

8am: Men's Club Chorus (Undercroft)
9am-12pm: Office Hours
1pm: Women of the Word (Meditation Room)

Wednesday, September 9

Pastor Grant's Office Day

8am: Men's Bible Breakfast (National Coney Island)
9am-1pm: Office Hours
4pm: Handbells (Sanctuary)
4:40pm: Choir (Music Room)

Thursday, September 10

9am-12pm: Office Hours

Friday, September 11

Pastor's Day Off | Office Closed on Fridays

Sunday, September 13

Pentecost 16

Return to Regular Schedule

11am: Holy Eucharist
Fellowship immediately following worship

Monday, September 14

Office Closed on Mondays

Tuesday, September 15

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

Wednesday, September 16

Pastor Grant's Office Day

9am-1pm: Office Hours
4pm: Handbells (Sanctuary)
4:40pm: Choir (Music Room)
6pm: Church Council (Gathering Area)

Thursday, September 17

9am-12pm: Office Hours

Friday, September 18

Pastor's Day Off | Office Closed on Fridays

Sunday, September 20

Pentecost 17

Choir Sings

11am: Holy Eucharist
Fellowship immediately following worship

The Weekly Newsletter of Saint James Lutheran Church For the Week of September 6, 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!

SUMMER SCHEDULE our Summer Schedule ends today, and we will return to our regular schedule next **Sunday, September 13**. There will be 2 services each Sunday, 1 at each church.

September 13: 11 AM at Saint James | 9 AM at St. Paul

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.



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.

BOOK CLUB Meets next on **Tuesday, September 22** at **1 PM** at Shelly Thorp's home. We will be discussing *A Thousand Splendid Suns* by Khaled Hussein. All are welcome to join any month's discussion! Contact **Nancy Kopka** with questions.



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!

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.



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. Thank you to all who dropped off donations for the rummage sale! Donation drop off ended on August 31, and St. Paul is now focusing on pricing and organizing items for the sale. Please contact sp.rummage@gmail.com with any questions!

CHURCH COUNCIL meets next on **Wednesday, September 16** at **6 PM** in the Gathering Area. All members are welcome to attend any council meeting!

PRAYER SHAWLS Calling all knitters and crocheters! Prayer Shawls will begin meeting again on **Thursday, September 24** at **10 AM** in the second floor conference room (accessible by the elevator or the stairwell near the doors to the municipal parking lot). Prayer Shawls meets monthly on the 4th Thursday of the month. Please contact **Nancy Kopka** with questions.