

Saint James Lutheran Church

April 21, 2024

Fourth Sunday of Easter



The Rev. John Locke

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Guest Musician : Alyssa Hall

Worship Leaders

	April 21	April 28
Assisting Minister	Allan Winter	Jane Boelke
Lectors	Anna Lisa Johannessen	Nancy Oliver
Communion Assistant	Lela Pell	Delores Schiebe
Ushers	Ruth Ann & Gary Crecelius	Tonie Neal, James Peterson
Greeter	Kathy Brown	Joan Eissinger
Acolyte	Victoria Orellano	Nate Stockham
Rover	David Moon	Rob Whitt
Worship Nursery	Kevin Hoffman, Valerie Brewer	Heather VanDervoort, Kathleen Heinrich

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GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God,
the wellspring of grace,
our Easter and our joy.
Amen.

Look, here is water!
Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Immersed in the promises of baptism,
let us give thanks for what God has done for us.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning
your voice thundered over the deep
and water became the essence of life.
Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.
The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.
Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea
into freedom's land.
In a desert pool the Ethiopian official
entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!
Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John
and anointed with the Holy Spirit.
By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection
you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love,
freeing us to live as Easter people.
We rejoice with glad hearts,
giving all honor and praise to you,
through the risen Christ, our source of living water,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
Amen.

Look, here is water!
Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

GATHERING HYMN

Christ The Lord is Risen Today; Alleluia!

ELW 369

GREETING

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

We sit.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

CHILDREN'S TIME

FIRST READING Acts 4:5-12

⁵The next day [the] rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, ¹⁰let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. ¹¹This Jesus is 'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.'

¹²There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

PSALM 23

¹The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

²**The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.**

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

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

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

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

SECOND READING 1 John 3:16-24

¹⁶We know love by this, that [Jesus Christ] laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ¹⁷How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? ¹⁸Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. ¹⁹And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him

²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything.

²¹Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; ²²and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him. ²³And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

We stand for the reading of the Gospel

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (Setting 3)

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: The holy gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

John 10:11-18

[Jesus said:] ¹¹“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

We sit.

SERMON

Pastor John

HYMN OF THE DAY

The Lord's My Shepherd

ELW 778

APOSTLES CREED

We profess our faith using the Apostle's Creed

**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.**

**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. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION *(Names are listed at the end of the bulletin)*

Each portion of the prayers ends with these words:
God of grace,
Hear our prayer.

PEACE

The peace of God be with you always.
And also with you.

We share this peace as a sign of our baptismal unity as children of God. The “exchange of peace” (also commonly called “sharing the peace” or “passing the peace”) is an act of reconciliation that serves as a transition point between the Word and Meal portions of the liturgy.

We sit.

OFFERING

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.



Your support of the ministries of St. James, as well as the wider church, is appreciated. You may donate with cash or check (you may use an envelope from the back of the pew). You may also scan the QR code above with your cell phone, and donate digitally. Thank you for your generosity.



ANTHEM *Lord, Lead Us On*

We stand.

OFFERING PRAYER

Risen One,
you call us to believe and bear fruit.
May the gifts that we offer here
be signs of your abiding love.
Form us to be your witnesses in the world,
through Jesus Christ, our true vine.
Amen.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

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.

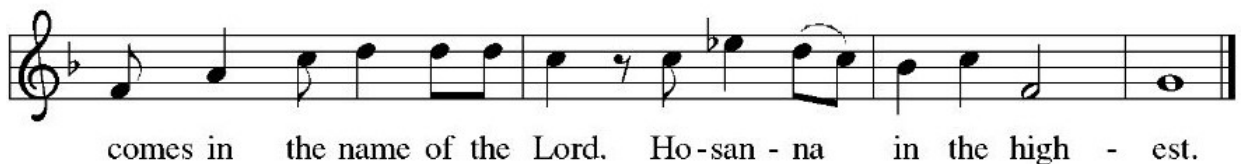
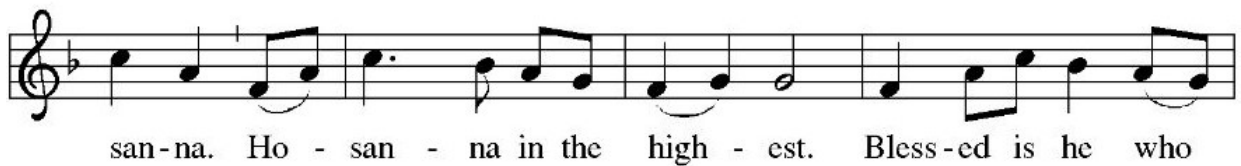
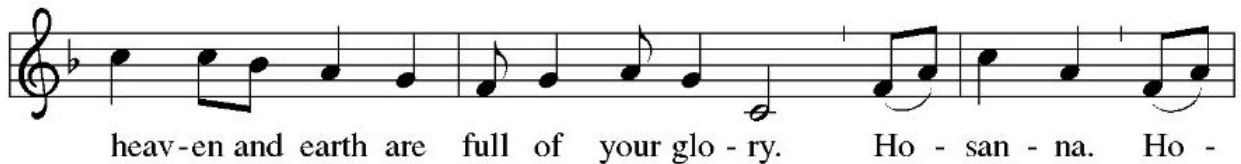
PREFACE

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.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,
we may come to the fullness of your grace.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW setting 3)



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

We give you thanks, Father,
through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son,
whom you sent in this end of the ages
to save and redeem us and to proclaim to us your will.

He is your Word, inseparable from you,
through whom you created all things,
and in whom you take delight.
He is your Word, sent from heaven to a virgin's womb.
He there took on our nature and our lot
and was shown forth as your Son,
born of the Holy Spirit and of the virgin Mary.
He, our Lord Jesus, fulfilled all your will
and won for you a holy people;
he stretched out his hands in suffering
in order to free from suffering those who trust you.

He is the one who, handed over to a death he freely accepted,
in order to destroy death, to break the bonds of the evil one,
to crush hell underfoot, to give light to the righteous,
to establish his covenant, and to show forth the resurrection,
taking bread and giving thanks to you, said:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
In the same way he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, then, his death and resurrection,
we take this bread and cup,
giving you thanks that you have made us worthy
to stand before you and to serve you as your priestly people.

Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your church;
gather into one all who share this bread and wine;
fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth,
that we may praise and glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ;
through whom all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father,
with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The risen Christ is made known to us
in the breaking of the bread.
Come and eat at God's table.

The assembly may be seated.

COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS

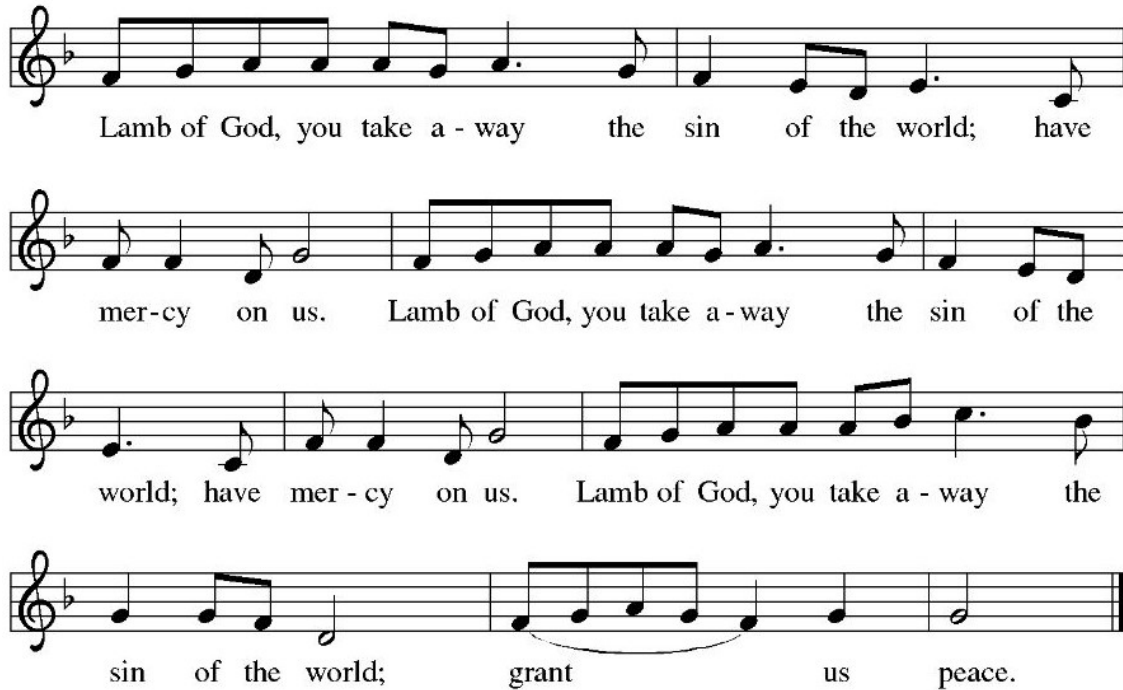
All are welcome at Holy Communion. Lutherans believe that Jesus' real presence is in, under, and through the bread and wine. The sacrament is effective in either bread or wine, so if you have an issue with either bread or wine, you may commune with one element. Grape juice and gluten-free wafers are available for those who prefer. We will distribute bread and wine by individual cup. Children and others not communing may fold arms across their chest, and they will receive a blessing from the communion minister.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say
The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
and each person may respond **Amen.**

COMMUNION SONGS

Lamb of God (Setting 3)



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.

HYMNS

Shepherd Me, O God
Instrumental

ELW 780

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Shepherding God,
you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love.
Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness
and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.
Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!
The God of resurrection power,
the Christ of unending joy,
and the Spirit of Easter hope
bless you now and always.
Amen.



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:
 2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,
 3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
 teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.
 gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!



Refrain
 Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE



Ministry at St. James ... April 21 - 28, 2024

Sun. April 21	9:00 am	Bible Study with Anna Lisa
	9:00 am	Men's Bible Study
	10:00 am	Worship
	11:15 am	Confirmation Class
	11:30 am	Congregation Council Meeting
Mon. April 22	9:00 am	Quilting Ministry (Annex)
	6:30 pm	Cub Scouts Den Meetings
Tue. April 23	5:00 pm	Boy Scouts BBQ Fundraiser
	7:00 pm	Boy Scouts Troop Meeting
	7:00 pm	Fellowship on Zoom
Wed. April 24	7:00 pm	Choir Practice
Sun. April 28	9:00 am	Bible Study with Anna Lisa
	9:00 am	Men's Bible Study
	10:00 am	Worship

Congregational Prayer Concerns

The list in the weekly bulletin is intended to be for persons in immediate crisis. Generally those names will be moved to the newsletter after 3 weeks.

The newsletter has our long-term prayer list which is updated as you tell us.

Members

- Joe Lehner
- Beth Sessoms
- Amy Allison
- Stella San Miguel
- Audrey Orose
- Kathleen Heinrich
- Gary Eissingner

Friends & Family

- James Rose
- Robert Barnes
- Samantha Ryan
- Jeff Ryan
- Will Brown
- Wolfgang Uhl
- Chelsey Sabota
- Jackson Behling
- Sayda Lawrence
- Judy Lundblad
- Brenda Tinney
- Ashley Littman
- Heather Loyd
- Tim Cannon
- The famliy of Rosemary Ellis

People at Home or in Care facilities (restricted mobility)

- Charlotte Davis
- Claudia Doyle
- Brenda Killett

Our military members (*deployed)

- ◆ Earl Stockham
- ◆ Jessie Hewins
- ◆ Joshua Trogdon
- ◆ Rob Whitt
- ◆ Bella Fish
- ◆ Kalie Steenrod
- ◆ David Oliver
- ◆ Tristan Bonde
- ◆ Dan Gibson
- ◆ Sarah Fox
- ◆ Jacob Rea
- ◆ Zach Turner*



Troop 747 is having its annual Barbecue Pork and Fried Chicken plate sale on
Tuesday, April 23 here at St. James from 5:00 - 7:00pm.

You can eat at the church, or you can carry out if you prefer. Tickets are \$12.00 each and include BBQ or Fried Chicken, each with potato salad, cole slaw and a roll.

Ian Gibson will be selling tickets at the church the next two Sundays, before and after the service, in the Gathering space.

If you need tickets apart from those times, please call Dave Runkle at 910.308.8803.

Thank you for supporting Scouting at St. James!

YARD SALE

May 18th from 7:00 - 1:00. Mark your calendar!

Proceeds will go towards the Youth Gathering Trip to New Orleans this July



We are accepting donations in the Annex.

Mo & We: 9-12

Thursday: 6-8 pm

Sat: 9-12

Sunday: After worship



Her Story is in The Stars

Four Biblical women ..
Tamar, Rahab, Ruth and Bathsheba
How do their stories connect?

**A one-day Bible Study
with Anna Lisa Johannessen**

Saturday, May 4 ... 9am - 2pm

[Register today!](#)

Lunch provided - \$10 donation suggested

[Register today!](#) There is a clipboard in the Foyer

Lunch provided - \$10 donation suggested