

Saint James Lutheran Church

May 18, 2025
Fifth Sunday of Easter



The Rev. John Locke

704-530-9969 (cell)
1424 Morganton Rd.
910-484-8052 (office)

jpl406@gmail.com
Fayetteville, NC 28305
www.saintjamesfay.org

Music Director: Mark Tollefsen

Worship Leaders		
	May 18	May 25
Assisting Minister	Jacky Hummel	Jane Boelke
Lectors	Glenn Stockwell	Kathy Brown
Communion Assistant	Sue Rink	Delores Schiebe
Ushers	Agnes Rybar, Georgette Miller-Rybar	John & Gayle Frinak
Greeter	Sue Rink	Kathleen Heinrich
Acolyte	Hannah Rea	Aaron Thomas
Rover	Dan Hewins	Paula Burns
Worship Nursery	Verena Min, Valerie Brewer	Heather VanDervoort, Kathleen Heinrich

Used by permission: Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License number is: SAS026696

GATHERING

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

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME

GATHERING HYMN *On Jordan's Stormy Bank I Stand* ELW 437

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

In the name of ✠ the One
who was, who is, and who is to come.

Amen.

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection,
and called to live the baptized life,
let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Holy God,
we give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that make a people your own,
that restore to wholeness,
and empower us to be witnesses in your name.
Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that strengthen believers
and give new life to beloved servants of your church;
waters that extend your boundless love
and cross barriers of our own making.
Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that open the hearts of believers
and give a voice in the night to those in captivity;
waters that set your people on a new path,
rejoicing in the Spirit's power.
Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One,
that our every day is shaped by these waters
that give us our very lives in you.
We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.
Amen.

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 God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you 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 11:1-18

¹ Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. ² So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, ³ saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" ⁴ Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, ⁵ "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. ⁶ As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. ⁷ I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' ⁸ But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' ⁹ But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' ¹⁰ This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. ¹¹ At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. ¹² The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. ¹³ He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; ¹⁴ he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' ¹⁵ And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. ¹⁶ And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' ¹⁷ If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" ¹⁸ When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM Psalm 148

- ¹ Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens;
praise God in the heights.
- ² **Praise the Lord, all you angels;
sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.**
- ³ Praise the Lord, sun and moon;
sing praise, all you shining stars.
- ⁴ **Praise the Lord, heaven of heavens,
and you waters above the heavens.**
- ⁵ Let them praise the name of the Lord,
who commanded, and they were created,
- ⁶ **who made them stand fast forever and ever,
giving them a law that shall not pass away.**
- ⁷ Praise the Lord from the earth,
you sea monsters and all deeps;
- ⁸ **fire and hail, snow and fog,
tempestuous wind, doing God's will;**
- ⁹ mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars;
- ¹⁰ **wild beasts and all cattle,
creeping things and flying birds;**
- ¹¹ sovereigns of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the world;
- ¹² **young men and maidens,
old and young together.**
- ¹³ Let them praise the name of the Lord,
whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over earth and heaven.
- ¹⁴ **The Lord has raised up strength for the people and praise for all faithful servants,
the children of Israel, a people who are near the Lord. Hallelujah!**

SECOND READING Revelation 21:1-6

- ¹ I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ² And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,
“See, the home of God is among mortals.
He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples,
and God himself will be with them;
⁴ he will wipe every tear from their eyes.
Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
for the first things have passed away.”
- ⁵ And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” ⁶ Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.”

The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

We stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (from Now The Feast and Celebration liturgy, by Marty Haugen)



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

John 13:31-35

³¹ When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³² If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³ Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ ³⁴ I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

We sit.

SERMON

We stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY *Where Charity and Love Prevail* ELW 359

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.**

HONORING OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE

Campbell Burks

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION *(Names are listed in the back of the bulletin)*

Each portion of the prayers ends with these words:

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We sit.

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.

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

Come Thou Fount, arr. by Craig Courtney

We stand.

OFFERING PRAYER

Risen One,
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.

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.

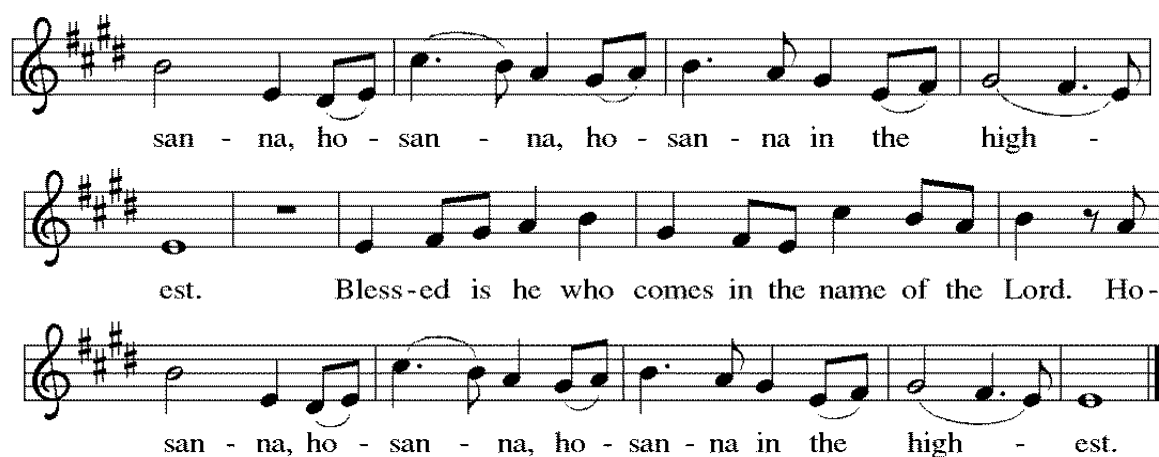
PREFACE

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 8)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night in which he was betrayed,
 our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
 broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
 Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, 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.

Join our prayers with those of your servants
 of every time and every place,
 and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest
 until he comes as victorious Lord of all.
 Through him, with him, in him,
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father,
 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

Come to the table of grace.
Receive the gift of new life.

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 8)

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, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

Baptized and Set Free
Oh, Praise the Gracious Power

ELW 453
ELW 651

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *We remain seated.*

Living One,
in this feast you have made yourself known to us.
Send us now to tell of your wonders,
sing of your glory,
and proclaim your risen life
to a wounded and weary world.
Amen.

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

SENDING

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

We stand.

BLESSING

The triune God,
who was, who is, and who is to come,
Sovereign, ☩ Savior, and Spirit,
light your way with resurrection dawn,
now and always.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN *Spirit, Open My Heart* ACS 1043 (see back of bulletin)

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE



We will be taking photos for our Pictorial Directory after worship today and on May 25.

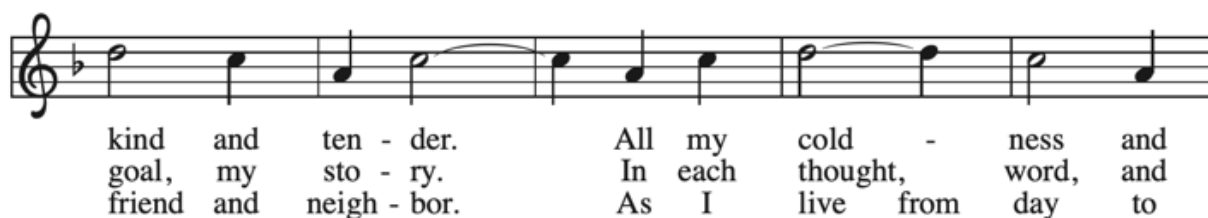
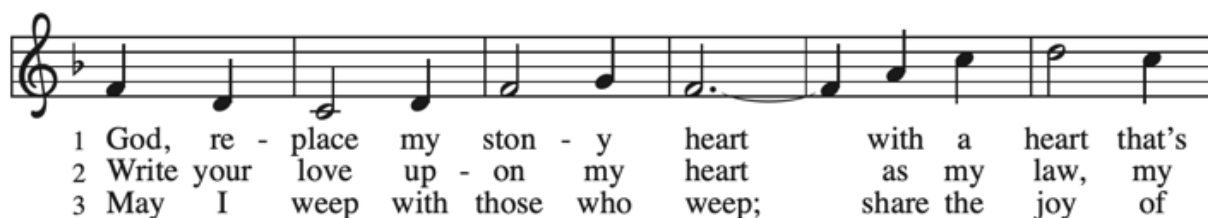
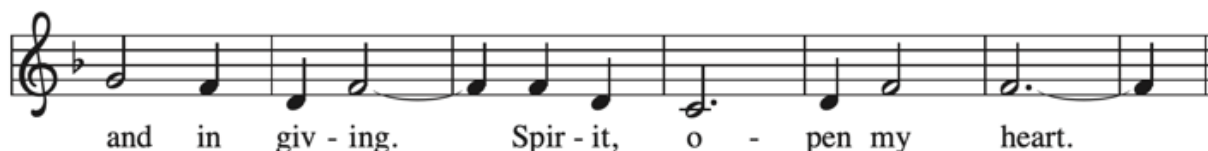
If you haven't had yours taken yet, you can schedule on our website!

You can also email us your favorite individual picture (portrait size)
to saintjameslutheran@gmail.com or bring a print for us to scan.

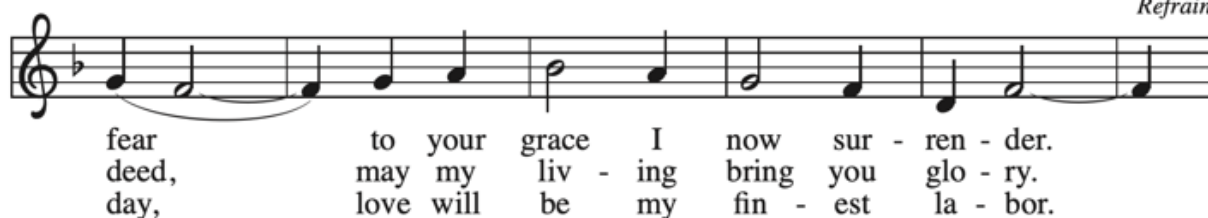


Spirit, Open My Heart

Refrain



Refrain



Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: WILD MOUNTAIN THYME, Irish melody; adapt. Alfred V. Fedak, b. 1953

Text © 1996 Pilgrim Press. All rights reserved.

Music © 2011 Alfred V. Fedak

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 · Stella San Miguel · Gary Eissinger · Linda Schlenker
 · Bill Vittoe · Larry Schiebe · Mary Wright

Friends & Family

· Claudia Joyner · Simone Ryan · Kathleen Huling · Diane Stultz · Mikael Knight
· Robert Barnes · Jill Whitwell · Becky Jones · Doris Kelly (death of her husband)

People at Home or in Care facilities (restricted mobility)

· Charlotte Davis · Claudia Doyle · Brenda Killett · Carolyn Uchtorff

Our military members (*deployed)

· Earl Stockham · Jessie Hewins · Rob Whitt · David Oliver · Tristan Bonde · Dan Gibson
· Jacob Rea · Joshua Trogon · Bella Fish · Hochang Min* · Alex Habermehl



Ministry at St. James ... May 18 - 25, 2025

Sun. May 18	9:00 am	Sunday Morning Faith Formation (Sunday School) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Women's Bible Study</u>, Rm 127• <u>Men's Bible Study</u>, Fellowship Hall... Sunday's Scripture Lessons• <u>Confirmation & High School</u>, (Rm 123 next to chapel)• <u>Children</u>... Lower-level classroom
	10:00 am	Worship
	11:30 am	Congregation Council
Mon. May 19	9:00 am	Quilting Ministry (Annex)
	6:00 pm	Cub Scout Den Meeting
Tue. May 20	7:00 pm	Fellowship on Zoom
	7:00 pm	Boy Scout Troop Meeting
Wed. May 21	7:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Sat. May 24	8:00 am	Cub Scouts: Shed clean up
Sun. May 25	9:00 am	Sunday Morning Faith Formation (Sunday School) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Women's Bible Study</u>, Rm 127• <u>Men's Bible Study</u>, Fellowship Hall... Sunday's Scripture Lessons• <u>Confirmation & High School</u>, (Rm 123 next to chapel)• <u>Children</u>... Lower-level classroom
	10:00 am	Worship
Mon. May 26		MEMORIAL DAY: Office closed / No quilting

