

Saint James Lutheran Church
 May 17, 2026
Seventh Sunday of Easter



The Rev. John Locke

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Musician: Scott Marosek

Worship Leaders		
	May 17 Seventh Sunday of Easter	May 24 Day of Pentecost
Assisting Minister	Jacky Hummel	Nathan Stockham
Lectors	Holden & Daniel Linkous	Rick Boelke
Communion Assistant	Jane Boelke	Hannah Rea
Ushers	Hannah Rea, Joanie Eissinger	Sharon VanPelt, Edward Samuelian
Greeter	Sharon VanPelt	Sue Rink
Acolyte	Gabriel Thomas	Ian Gibson
Rover	Paula Burns	Tom Liedig
Worship Nursery	Verena Min, Patsy Linkous	Erika Stockwell, Valerie Brewer

GATHERING

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

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME

TEMPLE TALK - David Runkle

WORSHIP VOLUNTARY

We stand

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!

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne
and to the Lamb!

Amen.

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.

Merciful God,
you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.
You lead us beside still waters.

We thank you for the waters of creation:
morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves.

We thank you for the waters that nourish us
Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness
who accompanies us on our journeys.
We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.
We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.
Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows.
Break down barriers that divide us.
Fill us with the breath of peace.
Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism,
and for making us a new creation.
We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise,
now and forever.

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 together.

O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through 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

Following Children's Time, children are invited to go downstairs for an adult supervised activity time. They will return to the sanctuary during the Hymn of The Day.

FIRST READING Acts 1:6-14

⁶ When [the apostles] had come together, they asked [Jesus], "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷ He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." ⁹ When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰ While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹ They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

¹² Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. ¹³ When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying: Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴ All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

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

PSALM Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35

- ¹ Let God arise, and let God's enemies be scattered;
let those who hate God flee.
- ² **As smoke is driven away, so you should drive them away;
as the wax melts before the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.**
- ³ But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God;
let them also be merry and joyful.
- ⁴ **Sing to God, sing praises to God's name; exalt the one who rides the clouds;
I Am is that name, rejoice before God!**
- ⁵ In your holy habitation, O God,
you are a father to orphans, defender of widows;
- ⁶ **you give the solitary a home and bring forth prisoners into freedom;
but the rebels shall live in desert places.**
- ⁷ O God, when you went forth before your people,
when you marched through the wilderness,
- ⁸ **the earth quaked, and the skies poured down rain, at the presence of God, the God of Sinai,
at the presence of God, the God of Israel.**
- ⁹ You sent a bountiful rain, O God;
you restored your inheritance when it languished.
- ¹⁰ **Your people found their home in it;
in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.**
- ³² Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth;
sing praises to the Lord.
- ³³ **You ride in the heavens, O God, in the ancient heavens;
you send forth your voice, your mighty voice.**
- ³⁴ Ascribe power to God,
whose majesty is over Israel; whose strength is in the skies.
- ³⁵ **How wonderful you are in your holy places, O God of Israel,
giving strength and power to your people! Blessed be God!**

SECOND READING 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

¹² Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³ But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴ If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

^{5:6} Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. ⁷ Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. ⁸ Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. ⁹ Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. ¹⁰ And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹ To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

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

We stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (Setting 8)

Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.

Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.

Save us as you prom-ised; we will trust your word.

Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: 'Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.' (first and fourth staves), 'Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.' (second staff), and 'Save us as you prom-ised; we will trust your word.' (third staff). The notation includes treble clefs, key signatures, and various note values and rests.

GOSPEL The Holy Gospel according to John *Glory to you, O Lord.*

John 17:1-11

¹ After Jesus had spoken these words [to his disciples,] he looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, ² since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³ And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. ⁴ I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵ So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

⁶ “I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷ Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, ⁸ for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹ I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰ All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹ And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”

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

We sit.

SERMON

Pastor John

We stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY *I Come With Joy*

ELW 482

APOSTLES CREED

We join with the Great Communion of Saints in confessing our faith, using the words of the Apostles 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 of those on the congregation's prayer list are listed in the back of the bulletin)

Each portion of the prayers ends with these words:

Merciful God,
receive 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.



Support of the ministries of St. James, as well as the wider church, is appreciated. To donate with cash or check use an envelope from the back of the pew or scan the QR code to donate digitally. Thank you for your generosity.



ANTHEM *I'm Gonna Sing*

We stand.

OFFERING PRAYER

Merciful God,
accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory.
You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day
when we will hunger and thirst no more.
Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus,
that goodness and mercy may follow us
and bless the world you love.
In the name of Jesus,
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.

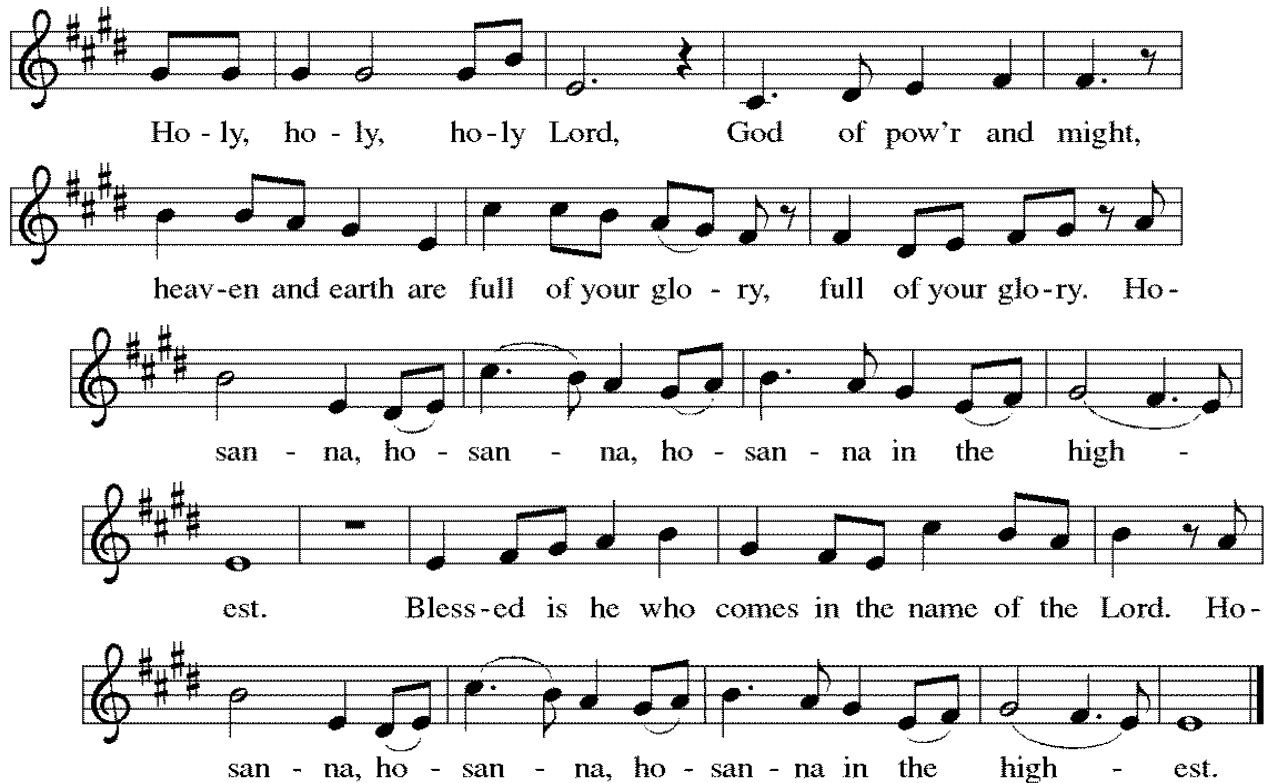
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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 -
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, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, O God of the universe.
Your mercy is everlasting
and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.
Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.
Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.
Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness
to the land of milk and honey.
Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.
Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.
Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With your holy ones of all times and places,
with the earth and all its creatures,
with sun and moon and stars,
we praise you, O God,
blessed and holy Trinity,
now and forever.
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER *(Modern Version)*

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

Our Father in heaven
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the table of new life.
Receive the risen Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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

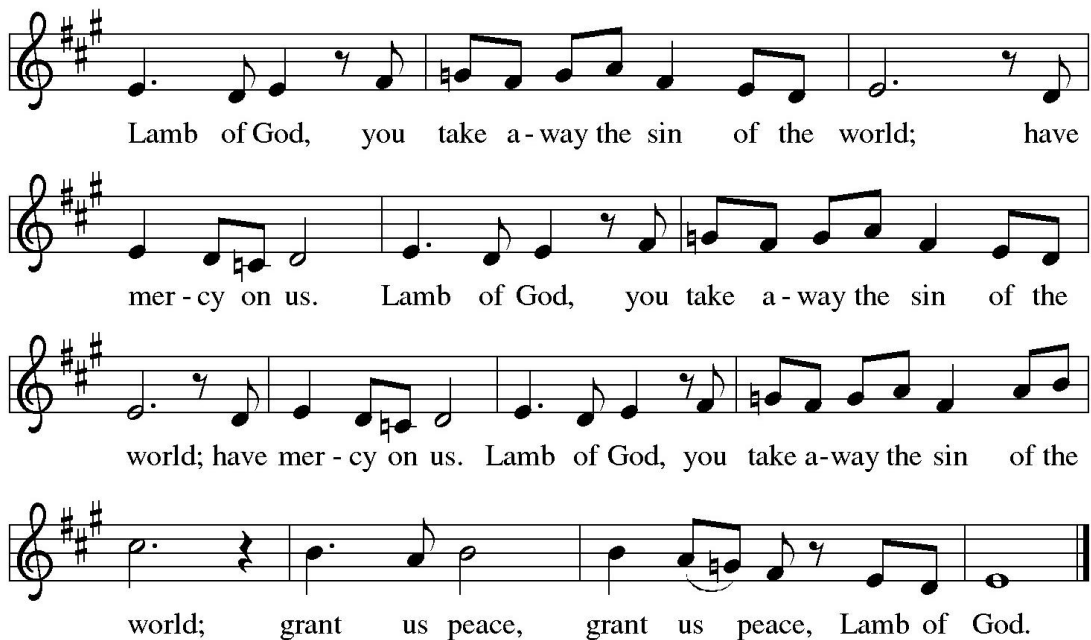
The body of Christ, given for you.

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.

Let Us Break Bread Together ELW 471

Baptized In Water ELW 456

We remain seated.

TABLE BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His Grace. Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy One,
through this meal you have made your home among us
and are making all things new.
Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts,
to love our enemies,
and to bring your healing to the nations.
In the name of Jesus,
Amen.

SENDING

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

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

THANK YOU EAGLE SCOUTS!

Today we are proud to recognize two of St. James own Scouting America Troop 747 who have recently completed their Eagle Scout Leadership Service Projects on the church campus. The Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project is one of the final steps a scout must complete to earn the coveted rank of Eagle Scout. Ian Gibson's project included removing and replacing the worn fencing surrounding several HVAC units behind the Fellowship Hall with white, vinyl fencing. Additionally, his project included expanding the adjacent landscaped area around the prayer garden to include a stone firepit for use by our congregation. Ryder Wardlaw's project re-landscaped an area outside the church office. An old, broken concrete table was removed, and the area was cleared of significant roots and debris. A brick patio was carefully constructed, and a new concrete table was placed upon it. Two small azaleas were added to further enhance that area. Both projects have greatly improved our property's appearance and will provide spaces for fellowship for years to come. Congratulations Ian and Ryder!

We stand.

BLESSING

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end,
Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead,
and the Spirit, our advocate and peace,
✠ bless you now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN *Go My Children With My Blessing* ELW 543

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER CONCERNS

May 17, 2026

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 · Beth Sessoms · Stella San Miguel · Larry Schiebe · Philip Williams
· Anna Lena Andersen · Brenda Killett · Betty Kern · Cayla Chaplin

Friends & Family

· Diane Stultz · Peter Lundell · Gregg Nazario · Sandy Pangle · Stasha · Alan Carlson · Katie Maxwell
· Darcey Beale · Wes Davis · Charlotte Choice and family · Sara Brown · Mindy Quinby · Morgen Jensen
· Jason VanDervoort

People at Home or in Care facilities: · Charlotte Davis · Brenda Killett · Carolyn Uchtorff

Our military members (*deployed)

· Earl Stockham · Dan Gibson · Joshua Trogdon* · Bella Fish · Hochang Min · Alex Habermehl
· Robert James · Matthew Porter* · Derek Carlson · Howard Hogan* · Justyce Crecelius*

Ministry at St. James ... May 17 - 24, 2026

- Sun May 17** *Seventh Sunday of Easter*
9:00 am Sunday Morning Faith Formation (Sunday School)
10:00 am Worship
11:30 am Choir Practice
- Mon May 18** 9:00 am Quilters (Annex Building)
- Tue May 19** 7:00 pm Boy Scouts Troop 747 Meeting
7:00 pm Fellowship on Zoom
- Sun May 24** *Day of Pentecost*
9:00 am Sunday Morning Faith Formation (Sunday School)
10:00 am Worship
11:30 am Choir Practice
11:30 am Introduction to St James (Fellowship Hall)
Please RSVP by Wednesday, May 20
(saintjameslutheran@gmail.com or 910-484-8052)
- Mon. May 25** Memorial Day – Office Closed



Next Sunday we celebrate Pentecost. Remember to wear red!

Congregation Council is calling a special **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING, SUNDAY MAY 24, 2026 at the conclusion of worship**. Information will be shared concerning the status of the Fellowship Hall heat/air conditioning unit, which is in need of replacement. The cost is being quoted at approximately \$36,200. Congregational approval is required for expenditures that are \$20,000 more than current spending plan. More specifics will be shared prior to the meeting next week.

This Sunday, May 17th will be our final session for 9:00 am Children's Sunday School for this school year.

Interested in formal membership in St. James?



Pastor John invites you to a time of conversation: "Introduction to St. James and being Lutheran", May 24th in the Fellowship Hall following worship (Lunch to be provided!) RSVP to the office by May 27!



Saint James is celebrating it's 90th anniversary on June 28th.

We need your stories and photographs!

Please record your retelling of fond memories on your phone and email it to saintjameslutheran@gmail.com or contact Rick Boelke (612-386-0293) and he'll be glad to help! We will have a video reel on June 28th for us all to enjoy.