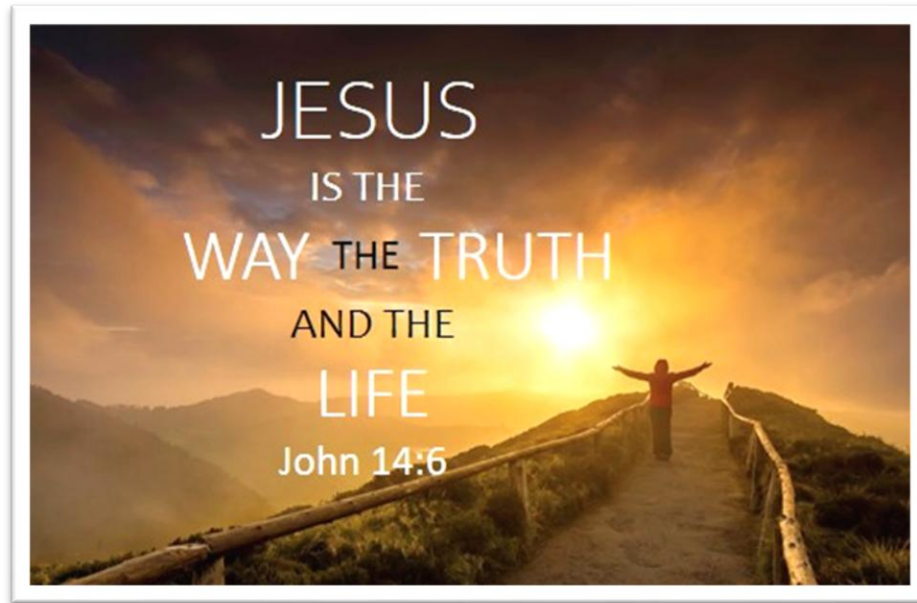


Saint James Lutheran Church

May 3, 2026

Fifth Sunday of Easter



The Rev. John Locke

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1424 Morganton Rd.
PO Box 53276
Fayetteville, NC 28305

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910-484-8052 (office)
www.saintjamesfay.org

Guest Preacher: The Rev. Nancy Oliver

Musician: Alyssa Hall

Worship Leaders		
	May 3 Fifth Sunday of Easter	May 10 Sixth Sunday of Easter
Assisting Minister	Jane Boelke	Ruth Ann Crecelius
Lectors	Jane Boelke	Valerie Brewer
Communion Assistant	Tonie Neal	Jaye-Lynn Orellano
Ushers	John & Gayle Frinak	Tonie Neal & James Peterson
Greeter	Patsy Linkous	Erika & Glenn Stockwell
Acolyte	Victoria Orellano	Willow Linkous
Rover	Dave Runkle	Ed Samuelian
Worship Nursery	Sue Rink, Kathy Brown	Amber Habermehl, Jennifer Linkous

GATHERING

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

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME

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 (*local waters may be named*).

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.

GATHERING HYMN *Now All The Vault of Heaven Resounds* ELW 367

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.

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he 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.

PSALM Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

¹ In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame;
deliver me in your righteousness.

² **Incline your ear to me;**
make haste to deliver me.

³ Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold;
for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.

⁴ **Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me,**
for you are my tower of strength.

⁵ Into your hands I commend my spirit,
for you have redeemed me, O Lord, God of truth.

¹⁵ **My times are in your hand;**
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.

¹⁶ Let your face shine upon your servant;
save me in your steadfast love.”

SECOND READING 1 Peter 2:2-10

² Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—³ if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴ Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God’s sight, and ⁵ like living stones let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For it stands in scripture:

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious,
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

⁷ This honor, then, is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the very head of the corner,”

⁸ and

“A stone that makes them stumble
and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

¹⁰ Once you were not a people,
but now you are God’s people;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.

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.

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

John 14:1-14

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ²In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going.” ⁵Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.” ⁸Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” ⁹Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. ¹²Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

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

We sit.

SERMON

Rev. Nancy Oliver

We stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* ELW 815

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 *Blessed Assurance*

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.

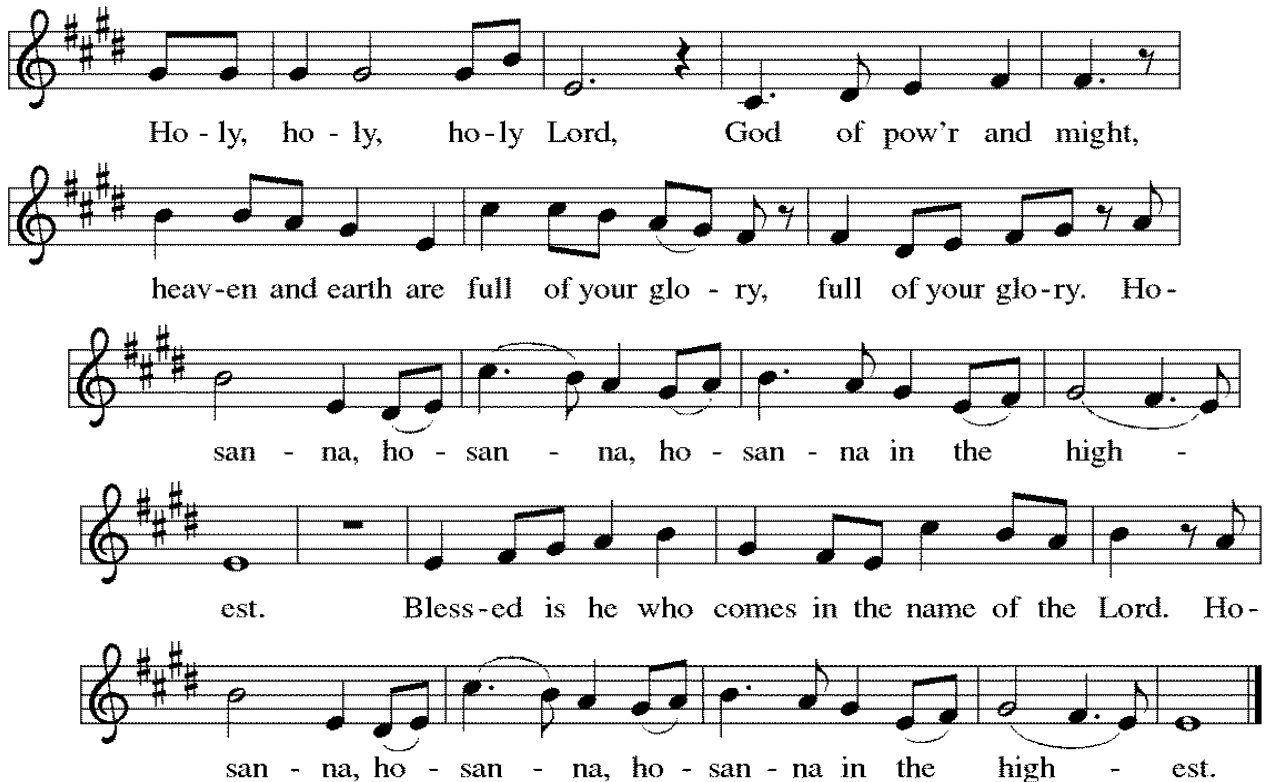
PREFACE

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

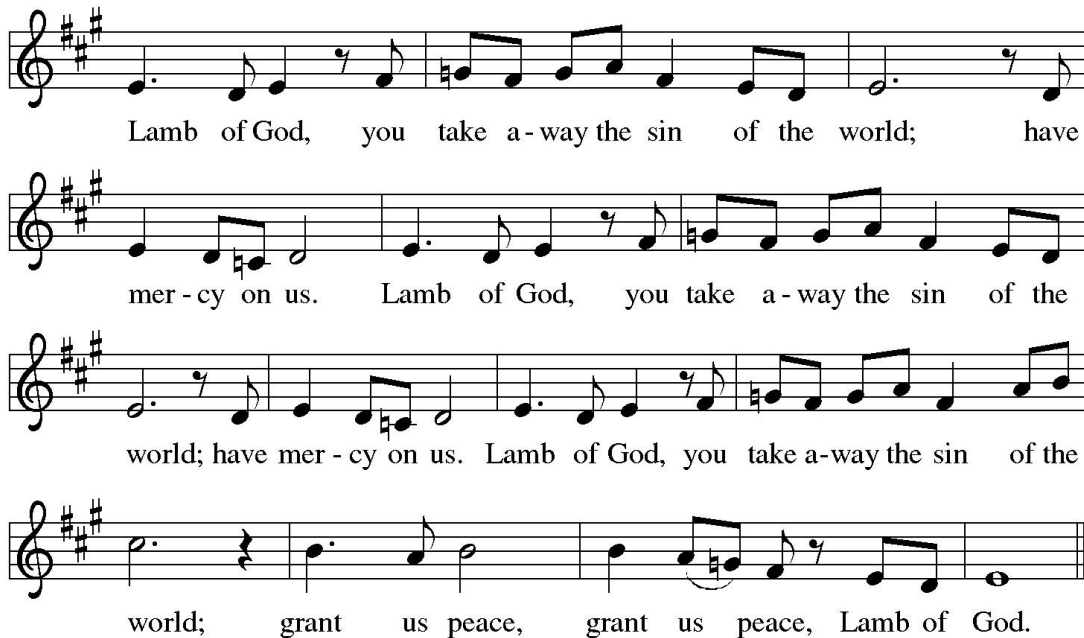
The body of Christ, given for you.

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.

Oh Jesus I Have Promised ELW 810

I Received the Living God ELW 477

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

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 *Christ Is Alive, Let Christians Sing* ELW 389

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER CONCERNS

May 3, 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 · Gary Eissinger · Brenda Killett · Betty Kern · Cayla Chaplin

Friends & Family

· Simone Ryan · Diane Stultz · Peter Lundell · Chrissy Tyndall · Gregg Nazario · Sandy Pangle · Stasha
· Alan Carlson · Katie Maxwell · Darcey Beale · Wes Davis · Charlotte Choice and family · Sara Brown
· Mary Quinby

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 3 - 10, 2026

Sun May 3

Fifth Sunday of Easter

9:00 am Sunday Morning Faith Formation (Sunday School)
9:00 am Men's Bible Study and LMM meeting
10:00 am Worship
11:30 am Choir Practice

Mon. May 4

9:00 am Quilters (Annex Building)
6:00 pm Cub Den Meeting
6:30 pm Youth Meeting

Tue. May 5

12:00 pm Prime Timers Luncheon (Fellowship Hall)
7:00 pm Boy Scouts Troop 747 Meeting
7:00 pm Fellowship on Zoom

Wed. May 6

5:30 pm Theology on Tap (Men's Fellowship on the back lawn)
6:00 pm Cub Scouts Meeting

Sun May 10

Mothers Day

Sixth Sunday of Easter

9:00 am Sunday Morning Faith Formation (Sunday School)
10:00 am Worship
11:30 am Choir Practice



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 can help! We will have a video reel on June 28th for us all to enjoy



Join us every first Tuesday, at Noon!
Potluck Lunch in our Fellowship Hall
May 5 at Noon

The Prime Timer group is designed as a fellowship opportunity for all members over 55.



Men's Fellowship - May 6

Come join us every first Wednesday 5:30 pm - 8 pm on the back lawn of St. James for brats, beans, and beverages.

If you are coming, let Dave Runkle or Todd Burns know in advance.

Weather plan is in the Annex/Entrance across the parking