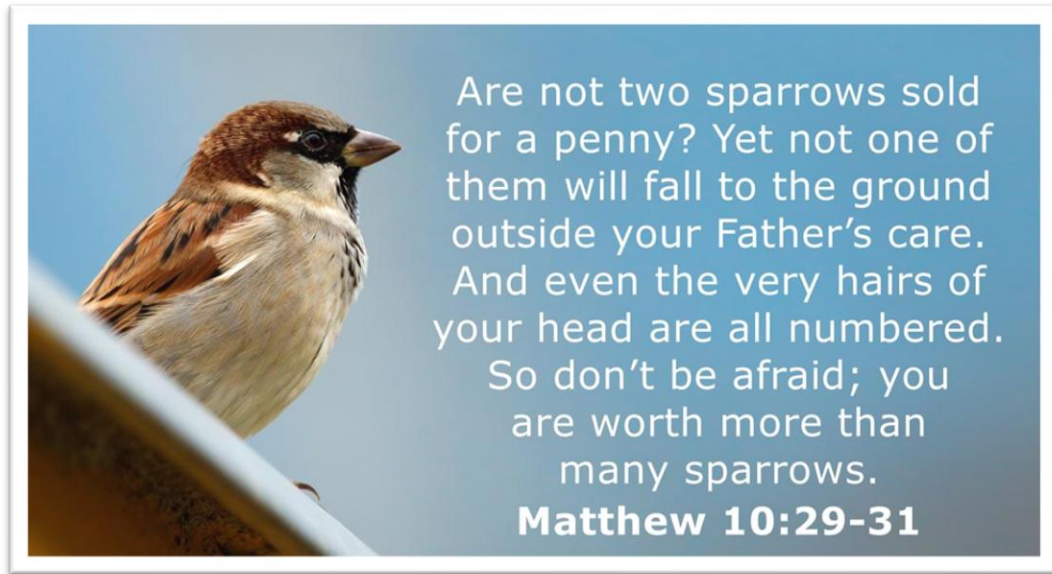


Saint James Lutheran Church

June 21, 2026

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost



The Rev. John Locke

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Musician: Alyssa Hall

Worship Leaders		
	June 21 4th Sunday after Pentecost	June 28 5th Sunday after Pentecost
Assisting Minister	Jackie Hummel	Scott Marosek
Lector	Beverly Beale	Rick Black
Communion Assistant	Delores Schiebe	Henry Orellano
Ushers	Agnes Rybar, Georgette Miller	Hannah Rea, Joanie Eissinger
Greeter	Teri Bumphrey	Linda Stellfox
Acolyte	Ricky VanPelt	Henry Orellano, Jr.
Rover	Verena & Christopher Min	Edward Samuelian
Worship Nursery	Amber & Alex Habermehl	Erika Stockwell, Kathy Brown

GATHERING

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

PRELUDE

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

We stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose compassion endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,
we confess to you all our sins.
Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.
In your mercy, call us back to you.
Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.
Restore us to dwell in your peace.
In Christ's name we pray,
Amen.

Jesus says, "Come to me,
all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest."
In the name of God,
Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.
Rest in God's love.
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN *Let The Whole Creation Cry* ELW 876

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. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together.

Teach us, good Lord God, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward, except that of knowing that we do your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

We sit.

WORD

CHILDREN'S TIME

Following Children's Time, younger 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 Jeremiah 20:7-13

⁷ O Lord, you have enticed me,
and I was enticed;
you have overpowered me,
and you have prevailed.
I have become a laughingstock all day long;
everyone mocks me.
⁸ For whenever I speak, I must cry out;
I must shout, "Violence and destruction!"
For the word of the Lord has become for me
a reproach and derision all day long.
⁹ If I say, "I will not mention him
or speak any more in his name,"
then within me there is something like a burning fire
shut up in my bones;
I am weary with holding it in,
and I cannot.
¹⁰ For I hear many whispering:
"Terror is all around!
Denounce him! Let us denounce him!"
All my close friends
are watching for me to stumble.
"Perhaps he can be enticed,
and we can prevail against him
and take our revenge on him."
¹¹ But the Lord is with me like a terrifying warrior;
therefore my persecutors will stumble,
and they will not prevail.
They will be greatly shamed,
for they will not succeed.
Their eternal dishonor
will never be forgotten.
¹² O Lord of hosts, you test the righteous;
you see the heart and the mind;
let me see your retribution upon them,
for to you I have committed my cause.
¹³ Sing to the Lord;
praise the Lord!
For he has delivered the life of the needy
from the hands of evildoers.

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

PSALM Psalm 69:7-10-18

⁷ Surely, for your sake I have suffered reproach,
and shame has covered my face.

⁸ **I have become a stranger to my own kindred,
an alien to my mother's children.**

⁹ Zeal for your house has eaten me up;
the scorn of those who scorn you has fallen upon me.

¹⁰ **I humbled myself with fasting,
but that was turned to my reproach.**

¹¹ I put on sackcloth also,
and became a byword among them.

¹² **Those who sit at the gate murmur against me,
and the drunkards make songs about me.**

¹³ But as for me, this is my prayer to you, at the time you have set, O Lord:
“In your great mercy, O God, answer me with your unfailing help.

¹⁴ **Save me from the mire; do not let me sink;
let me be rescued from those who hate me and out of the deep waters.**

¹⁵ Let not the torrent of waters wash over me, neither let the deep swallow me up;
do not let the pit shut its mouth upon me.

¹⁶ **Answer me, O Lord, for your love is kind;
in your great compassion, turn to me.**

¹⁷ Hide not your face from your servant;
be swift and answer me, for I am in distress.

¹⁸ **Draw near to me and redeem me;
because of my enemies deliver me.**

SECOND READING Romans 6:1b-11

^{1b} Should we continue in sin in order that grace may increase? ² By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? ³ Do you not know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ Therefore we were buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life.

⁵ For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶ We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, so we might no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷ For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸ But if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹ We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰ The death he died, he died to sin once for all, but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹ So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

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

We stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (Setting 8)

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, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

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

Matthew 10:24-39

[Jesus said to the twelve:] ²⁴“A disciple is not above the teacher nor a slave above the master; ²⁵ it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

²⁶“So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered and nothing secret that will not become known. ²⁷ What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. ²⁸ Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, fear the one who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹ Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. ³⁰ And even the hairs of your head are all counted. ³¹ So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

³²“Everyone, therefore, who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven, ³³ but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

³⁴“Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace but a sword.

³⁵ For I have come to set a man against his father,
and a daughter against her mother,

and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law,

³⁶ and one’s foes will be members of one’s own household.

³⁷“Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me, ³⁸ and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹ Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.”

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

We sit.

SERMON

Pastor John

We stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY *How Firm A Foundation*

ELW 796

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:

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.



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 *His Eye is on the Sparrow*

We stand.

OFFERING PRAYER

Loving God,
we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.
Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,
so that all creation can taste your abundance.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.
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;
who on this day 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 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

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.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

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.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER *(Traditional Version)*

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

Heaven has come near.
Come, share in the feast!
Thanks be to God.

We sit.

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.

Thy Holy Wings ELW 613

As The Grains of Wheat ELW 465

We stand.

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

Compassionate God,
through the gifts of bread and wine
our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love.
Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal,
may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING

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

BLESSING

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,
✠ one God,
bless, heal, and hold you
today and always.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN *I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me* ELW 860



1 I'm so glad I'm so glad
2 Sa - tan had me bound, Je - sus lift - ed me. Sa - tan had me bound,
3 When I was in trou - ble, When I was in trou - ble,



Je - sus lift - ed me. I'm so glad
Sa - tan had me bound, Je - sus lift - ed me,
When I was in trou - ble,



sing - ing glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! Je - sus lift - ed me.

DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE



The flowers on the altar are given today by Diana Vittoe in honor of Frank's birthday and her wedding anniversary as well as in memory of Stella, Bill and Andy.

If you would like to give the altar flowers on a Sunday morning and have your dedication printed in the bulletin, write your name on the clip board and Michelle at the office will reach out!

In celebration of our 90th anniversary, we will be featuring small snippets of our history every week!

On September 12, 1935, Rev. Roscoe B. Fisher came to Fayetteville at the request of the mission committee of the North Carolina Synod. He was asked to assess the area for the possible establishment of a Lutheran Mission Congregation. The first service was held at the YMCA on October 20, 1935. At the time the YMCA was a two story brick building located on the corner of Old And Anderson Streets. It featured a meeting room on the first floor, rooms to rent on the second floor and a pool in the basement. There were 22 present and the offering collected was \$4.15. The possibility of establishing a congregation was discussed.



Saint James is celebrating its 90th anniversary on June 28! We have received news that the new Fellowship Hall HVAC will not be installed prior to 28 June. Considering that summer temperatures will be here by late June, our planning team has made the following decisions: The planned anniversary lunch will be postponed until a later date; however

A Celebration of thanksgiving in worship is still planned. Bishop Emily Hartner will be our guest preacher and the choir will lead with wonderful music. We will give thanks to God for the blessing of ninety years of ministry. **Please make plans to be in attendance on June 28.**



Name Badges – We have name badges in the Gathering Space, and you are encouraged to wear yours. It will help us put a name with the new faces on Sunday morning. If you don't have one and would like one, leave a note on the attendance pad for Michelle in the office.



Make sure you grab your copy of “Week 2 Week” devotions next to the bulletins outside of the sanctuary!

WEEK 2 WEEK
Community worship throughout the week!

Week of June 21 - 27, 2024 **4th Sunday after Pentecost** **Numbers 19:28**

FOCUS VERSE
"And even the hairs of your head are all counted."
Memorize: _____

SERMON NOTES:
Read and/or write your sermon! (Share, please, reference etc.) What passages are up with you? (Put in your own in capital letters!)

FOR FURTHER THOUGHT by Rev. John Laska
200 years in a hard spirit (and a very good one). I never say, even though I claim to bring you a Bible lesson. According to me, the average human head has between 100,000 and 150,000 hairs. What makes the hair fall out is obvious to us, to talk the hair out of its natural state. Frequently changed. We lose hair mainly every day – when we brush, comb, wash, or dry our hair. We also lose strands from strands every day as well. The average hair strand will live for between 2-7 years. So, hair's very possible to die. Average head 125,000 hairs. I long hair. Hair falls out, and the number of hairs lost are replaced with the same number. Hair that's a replacement of about 10,000 hairs per year, or over 60 per day, or 2-3 an hour!

CONSIDER:
What are in your life change? or 3 hairs per hour? Perhaps. Numbers is telling us that God knows the number of hairs we have and all of your hairs – very much and straight up. How might that affect our understanding of how God sees the world and us?

BEYOND SUNDAY:
Monday: Numbers 19:28-30 (and other verses) **Memorize:** _____

TUESDAY: Revelation 2:8-11 (John's vision encourages Sunday) **Memorize:** _____

WEDNESDAY: Matthew 10:7 (The Kingdom of Heaven is near) **Memorize:** _____

THURSDAY: Psalm 10:4 (God's covenant is David) **Memorize:** _____

FRIDAY: Genesis 22:1-14 (The Sacrifice of Abraham is near) **Memorize:** _____

SATURDAY: Luke 17:1-4 (Jesus' another offering/blessing) **Memorize:** _____

Read: Isaiah 55:1-2, 2024 - 19 Sunday after Pentecost (John 5:1) Genesis 22:1-14, Psalm 10:4-11, 10, Romans 8:1-23, Matthew 10:4-12



Nursery help: We are looking for adults to help in the nursery and with the older kids (2nd grade and up) during the sermon. The kids (rising 2nd grade and older) will be sitting in service starting July until school starts to give Jacky Hummel a chance to recharge for the start of the school year. Contact the office if interested! saintjameslutheran@gmail.com 910-484-8052