

St. James Lutheran Church
5th Sunday of Easter
April 28, 2024



St. James Lutheran Church

Leader: Bryce Hewlett, SAM

Assistant Minister: Jason Forari

Acolyte: Anthonise Abel

Music Minister: Steve Abel

Church Address: 1705 Oak Street, Bettendorf, IA 52722

Office Email: ***stjamesbett@gmail.com***

Church Office: 563-355-4161

Website: ***www.stjamesbett.com***

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

Guests, we are glad you have joined us today! If you would like to receive contact from St. James following this worship service, please fill out a card from the pew slot and put it in the offering plate. Thank you!

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

The assembly rises in body or spirit

OPENING HYMN ELW 443 *Dearest Jesus, We Are Here*



1 Dear - est Je - sus, we are here, glad - ly your com -
2 Your com - mand is clear and plain, and we would o -
3 There - fore we have come to you, in our arms this
4 Gra - cious head, your mem - ber own; shep - herd, take your
5 Now in - to your heart we pour prayers that from our

mand o - bey - ing. With this child we now draw near
 bey it du - ly: "You must all be born a - gain,
 in - fant bear - ing; tru - ly here your grace we view;
 lamb and feed it; prince of peace, make here your throne;
 hearts pro - ceed - ed. Our pe - ti - tions heav'n - ward soar;

in re - sponse to your own say - ing that to you it
 heart and life re - new - ing tru - ly, born of wa - ter
 may this child, your mer - cy shar - ing, in your arms be
 way of life, to heav - en lead it; pre - cious vine, let
 may our heart's de - sires be heed - ed! Write the name we

shall be giv - en as a child and heir of heav - en.
 and the Spir - it, and my king - dom thus in - her - it."
 shield-ed ev - er, yours on earth and yours for - ev - er.
 noth - ing sev - er from your side this branch for - ev - er.
 now have giv - en; write it in the book of heav - en!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

C: O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The assembly is seated

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

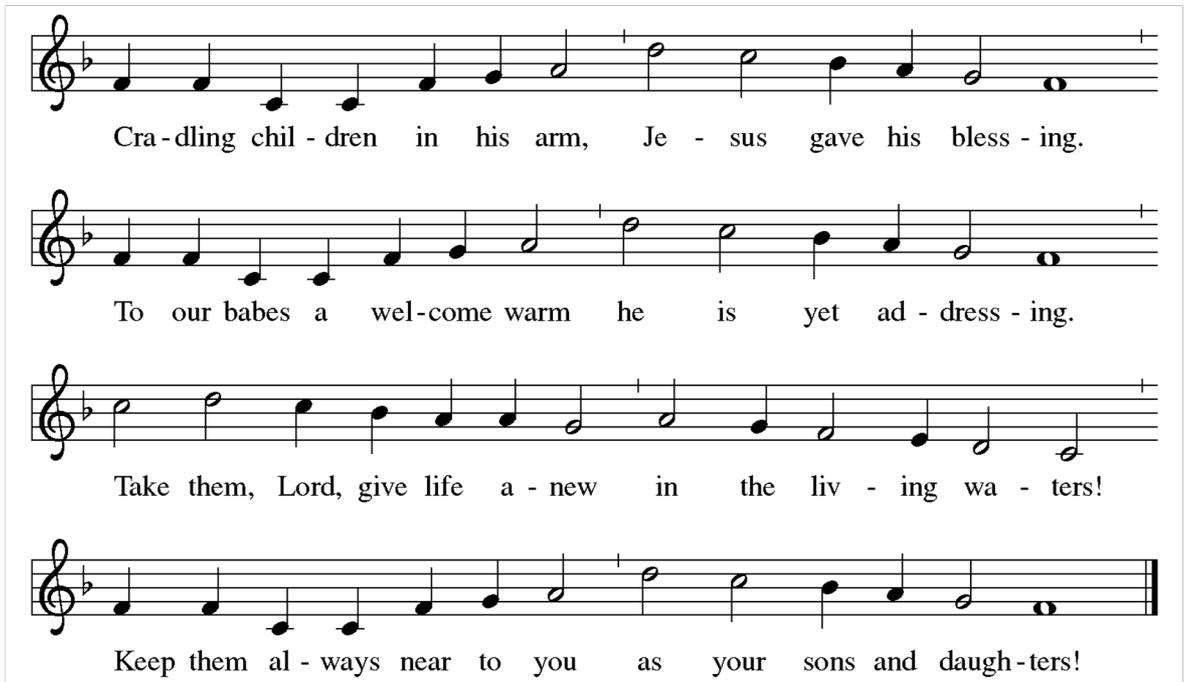
Refer to bulletin insert

Samuel Pessein

Jude Hewlett

Dexter Hewlett

Baptismal Hymn 444 Cradling Children In His Arms



The image shows the musical notation for the hymn 'Cradling Children In His Arms'. It consists of four staves of music in a single system, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a C-clef and a B-flat, followed by a series of quarter notes and half notes. The second staff continues the melody with similar note values. The third staff features a mix of quarter and half notes. The fourth staff concludes the phrase with a double bar line.

Cra - dling chil - dren in his arm, Je - sus gave his bless - ing.

To our babes a wel - come warm he is yet ad - dress - ing.

Take them, Lord, give life a - new in the liv - ing wa - ters!

Keep them al - ways near to you as your sons and daugh - ters!

The assembly is seated

The children are dismissed for Sunday School.

WORD

FIRST READING Acts 8:26-39

²⁶An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) ²⁷So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." ³⁰So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" ³¹He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. ³²Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.

³³In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth."

³⁴The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" ³⁵Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" ³⁸He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. ³⁹When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing.

A: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY Psalm 22:25-31 (to be read responsively)

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great assembly;

I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

²⁶**The poor shall eat and be satisfied,**

Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;

all the families of nations shall bow before God.

²⁸**For dominion belongs to the LORD,**

who rules over the nations.

²⁹Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship;

all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel

before the LORD.

³⁰**Their descendants shall serve the LORD,**

whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.

³¹**They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn,**

saying to them, "The LORD has acted!"

SECOND READING Romans 6:3-5

³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴Therefore we have been 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 too might walk in newness of life.

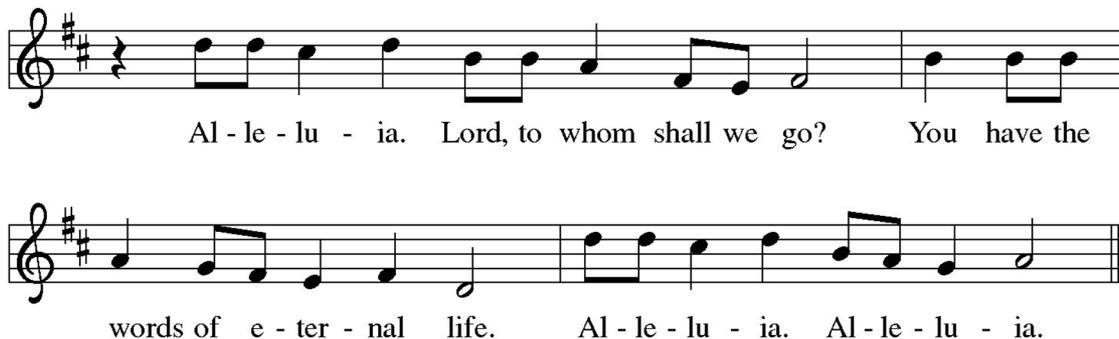
⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

A: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

The assembly rises in body or spirit to welcome the gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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

P: The holy gospel according to **John 15:1-7**

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. ²He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated

SERMON

“Baptism into Christ”

The assembly rises in body or spirit

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 445 Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters



- 1 Wash, O God, our sons and daughters, where your cleansing waters flow.
- 2 We who bring them long for nurture; by your milk may we be fed.
- 3 Oh, how deep your holy wisdom! Unimagined, all your ways!



Num - ber them a - mong your peo - ple; bless as Christ blessed long a - go.
Let us join your feast, par - tak - ing cup of bless - ing, liv - ing bread.
To your name be glo - ry, hon - or! With our lives we wor - ship, praise!



Weave them garments bright and spark - ling; com - pass them with love and light.
God, re - new us, guide our foot - steps; free from sin and all its snares,
We your peo - ple stand be - fore you, wa - ter - washed and Spir - it - born.



Fill, a - noint them; send your Spir - it, ho - ly dove and heart's de - light.
one with Christ in liv - ing, dy - ing, by your Spir - it, chil - dren, heirs.
By your grace, our lives we of - fer. Re - cre - ate us; God, trans - form!

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

*Greet one another by shaking hands or with a word or sign of Christ's peace.
The assembly is seated*

PRAYER

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and life has triumphed over sin and death, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A: We pray for the church around the world, for all ministers, and for the mission of the gospel. Keep all the newly baptized in your care, especially **Samuel, Jude, and Dexter**. Cleanse our hearts with your word and help us to abide in you always. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer

A: For this congregation: for the caring ministries of this faith community, for all who visit and minister to one another, for all who take communion to homes or care centers, and for all who seek to share your love with the world. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer

A: Gracious God, help this and all communities of faith to listen for your voice. Call us away from things that distract us from following you. Invite us to more deeply love and serve people who are lonely, isolated, and on the margins. We pray for those who serve in the Armed Forces and their families, especially **Brandon and Eli**. Grant to them safety, courage, and your ever-abiding presence. Grant peace to veterans and heal any wounds in body, mind, or spirit. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer

A: With thanksgiving for the saints who rest from their labors. Help us, like them, to bear much fruit and to become your disciples, and at the last, bring us to that heavenly banquet where all will feast together at your table. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer

A: For the well-being of the earth and of all created things: for rivers and lakes, streams and estuaries, melting glaciers and polluted waters, especially the Wapsi, Mississippi, and Rock Rivers. Renew the face of the earth and shower us with your goodness. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer

A. For all those in need: for any experiencing homelessness or unemployment, for those fleeing from oppression or seeking asylum, and for all who are ill or suffering, especially **Bev, LaVonne, Sherry, Frieda, Lynn, Kelly, Sandy, Paul, Jeanne, Tom, Bert, Joleen, Barry, Amy, Kelly, Serece, Drew, Lonnie, Phil, Larisa, Michelle, Jason, Karen, Jon, and Connor.** God of grace,

C: hear our prayer

A: Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

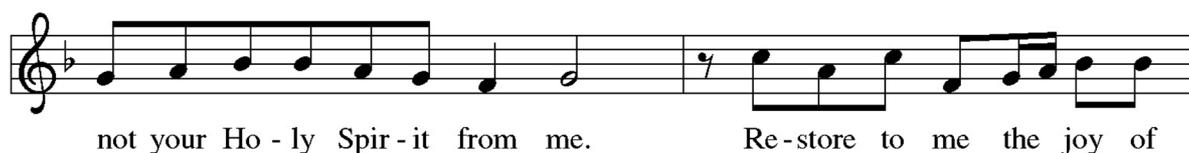
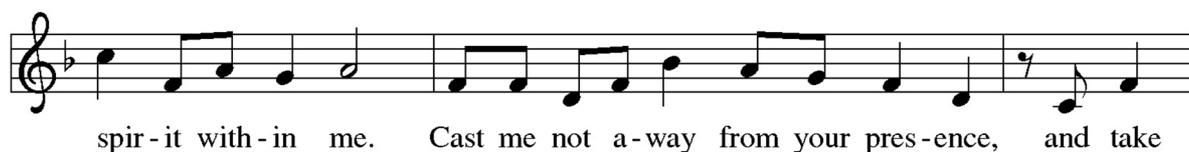
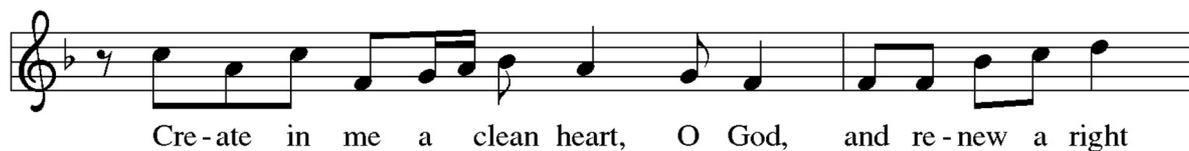
C: Amen.

MEAL

OFFERING *your offering may be placed in the plate as it is passed. We thank all who support God's ministry here and in the world.*

Stand as the offering is presented at the rail.

OFFERTORY *Create in Me a Clean Heart*



OFFERING PRAYER

A: 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.

C: Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

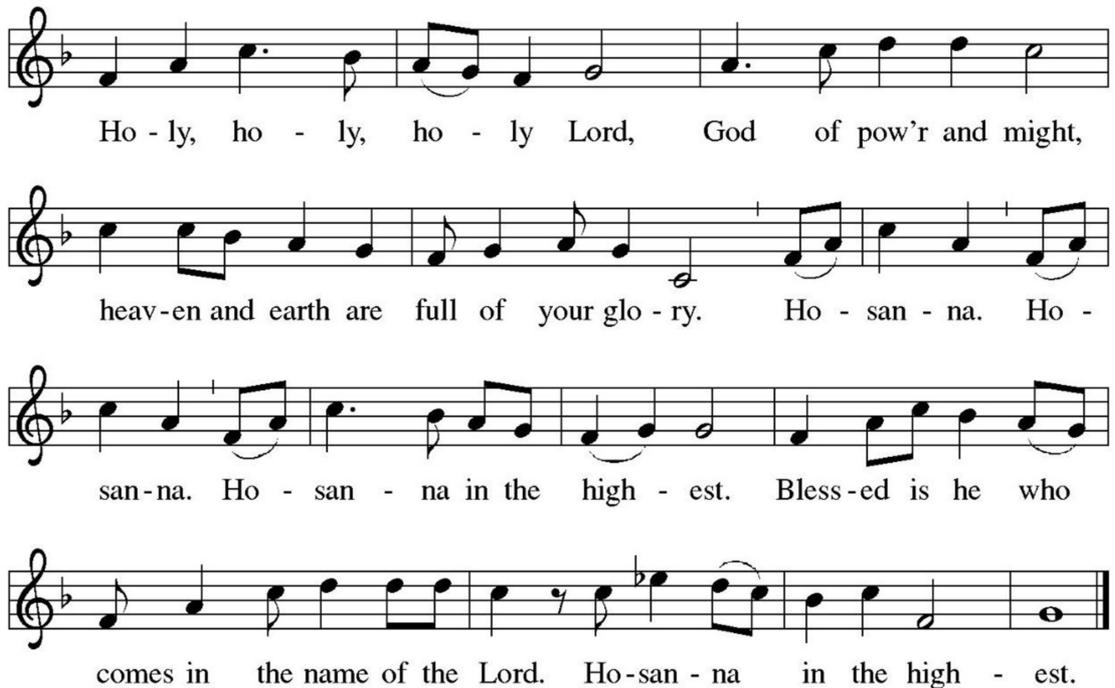
P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: 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.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are 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 in the high - est.

P: In the night 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 his love for us on the way, At the table, And to the end,
We proclaim the mystery of faith:

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P. Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that we who share in Christ's body and blood
may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in
light.

C: Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

P. Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we pray as Jesus taught us.

**C: 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.
Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

C: Thanks be to God

The assembly is seated.

Come, for Christ invites you. Communion today will be distributed at the altar rail (please stand or kneel, as you are comfortable), the ushers will direct you forward to receive the bread (which is gluten-free) and cup either wine (red) or grape juice (white). For those who prefer, pre-packaged communion elements are available as you enter the worship space.

Hymn: Lamb of God



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



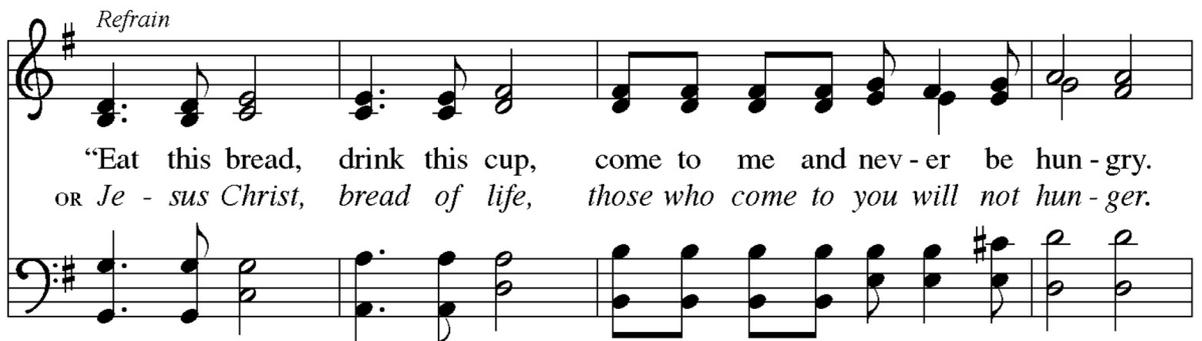
you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

COMMUNION HYMNS

Choir Anthem: *Blessing After Blessing*

Hymn ELW 472 *Eat This Bread* (sing 3 times)

Refrain



“Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and nev - er be hun - gry.
OR Je - sus Christ, bread of life, those who come to you will not hun - ger.



Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.”
Je - sus Christ, ris - en Lord, those who trust in you will not thirst.

The assembly rises in body or spirit.

BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in eternal life.

C: Amen

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray.

Lord of the vineyard, 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.

C: Amen

The assembly is seated.

TEMPLE TALK: Stories of Renewed Life Among Us

The assembly rises in body or spirit.

SENDING

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

BLESSING

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P: The God of resurrection power,
the Christ of unending joy,
and the Spirit of Easter hope
✠ bless you now and always.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN **ELW 881** *Let All Things Now Living*



1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing to
2 God rules all the forc - es: the stars in their cours - es and



God the cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise,
sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine;



who fash - ioned and made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us, who
the hills and the moun - tains, the riv - ers and foun - tains, the



still guides us on to the end of our days.
deeps of the o - cean pro - claim God di - vine.



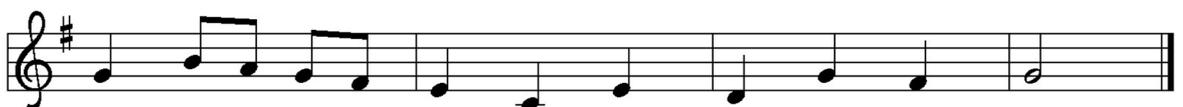
God's ban - ners are o'er us, God's light goes be -
We too should be voic - ing our love and re -



fore us, a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night,
joic - ing; with glad ad - o - ra - tion a song let us raise



till shad - ows have van - ished and dark - ness is ban - ished, as
till all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks - giv - ing: "To



for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.
God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!"

P: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Beginning in April (for the months of April & May), Sunday school will take place DURING our worship service. The children will be dismissed after the Prayer of the Day and will be brought back after the Prayers of Intercession to join their families for Holy Communion.

- April 29th there will be a blood drive at St. James from 2:30 PM - 5:30 PM. To schedule an appointment time, please call Freida Houldsworth at 563-355-1628 or Janene Anderson at 563-370-8710. Please eat before donating and bring photo ID.
- May 12th MOTHER'S DAY Following the service, we will be hosting "Morning Muffins with Mom." Come join us for a morning of muffins and mingling with moms.
- May 19th PENTECOST New Member Service. All those wishing to become new members should contact the church office. Reception will follow the service. No Saturday service on 5/18.
- June 1st Mark your calendar for our Kickoff to Summer Event immediately following the Saturday evening service. We are asking for food pantry items which will be donated to our St. James Food Pantry. The event will begin at 6 PM. More details to come.
- The Christian Ed Committee is looking for volunteers to help with this year's Backyard Bible Club. Please contact Angie Schmidt at 563-570-4928 or Mandy Peters-Speidel at 563-370-8262 if you would like to participate.
- We livestream our services on YouTube each week to help us worship together and stay connected even when we are not at full health. Please take advantage of that option if you need it - even if it's just for one Sunday!

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzjmqGF4g_QWtn_I2SqL5Q

On the Calendar

Sunday, April 28

9 AM

Worship with Holy Communion
Baptismal Service

Monday, April 29

2:30-5:30 PM

Blood Drive

Wednesday, May 1

6-8 PM

St. James Food Pantry

Thursday, May 2

9-11 AM

St. James Food Pantry

Saturday, May 4

5 PM

Saturday Evening Service

Sunday, May 5

9 AM

Worship with Holy Communion

Monday, May 6

4 PM

Social Ministry Meeting

Wednesday, May 8

6-8 PM

St. James Food Pantry

Thursday, May 9

9-11 AM

St. James Food Pantry

4:30 PM

Finance Committee Meeting

Saturday, May 11

5 PM

Saturday Evening Service

Sunday, May 12

9 AM

Worship with Holy Communion

10 AM

Muffins with Moms

Monday, May 13

9:30 AM

Monday Morning Fellowship

Tuesday, May 14

1 PM

Sarah Circle

Worship Assistants

April 28

Presider
Assisting Minister
Usher
YouTube Assistant
Altar Guild
Counters

May 5

Presider
Assisting Minister
Usher
YouTube Assistant
Altar Guild
Counters

May 12

Presider
Assisting Minister
Usher
YouTube Assistant
Altar Guild
Counters

May 19

Presider
Assisting Minister
Usher
YouTube Assistant
Altar Guild
Counters

9:00 AM Worship with Holy Communion

Bryce Hewlett, SAM
Jason Forari
Fritz Voss & Judy Larson
Deb Crooks
Pat Larson & Mary Meumann
Ellen Hogbin & Doug Larson

9:00 AM Worship with Holy Communion

Bryce Hewlett, SAM
Judie Brooks
Janene Anderson & Pat Larson
Deb Crooks
Ellen Hogbin & Terry Martens
Mary Meumann & Shirley Richlen

9:00 AM Worship with Holy Communion

Bryce Hewlett, SAM
Ann Larson
Diana Worley & Caroline Hicks
Deb Crooks
Ellen Hogbin & Terry Martens
Mary Meumann & Shirley Richlen

9:00 AM Worship with Holy Communion

Bryce Hewlett, SAM
Pat Larson
Jerry Nichols & Yvonne Nichols
Deb Crooks
Shirley Richlen & Mary Meumann
Shirley Richlen & Mary Meumann

Prayers for Healing and Support

Congregational Members

Bev Chappen, **LaVonne** Mienke, **Sherry** Germanio, **Frieda** Houldsworth,
Lynn Chamberlain, **Kelly** Wainwright, **Sandy** Henry,
Paul Jones, **Jeanne** Peters, **Tom** Sladky, **Bert** Leder, **Joleen** Bakken

Family and Friends

Barry (cousin of Ellen Hogbin), **Amy** (friend of Jenny Martin),
Kelly (Jennifer's sister), **Serece** (Pat Larson's cousin),
Drew (Pat Larson's friend), **Lonnie** (son of Roberta Leder),
Phil (Steve Miller and Pat Sorensen's brother), **Karen** (Pat Larson's sister),
Larisa (Sandy Henry's granddaughter), **Michelle** (friend of Ellen Hogbin),
Jason (Lynn Chamberlain & Sherry Germanio's son),
Jon (Joleen Bakken's nephew), **Connor** (Bert Leder's grandson)

Military Personnel

Lt. Col. **Brandon** Sandoval USAF, (Pat Larson's grandson)
1st Lt. **Eli** Smith (Jerry and Myrna Mattly's grandson)

If you have anyone who needs to be taken off or added, please notify the church office.

Copyright Acknowledgements

From sundaysandseasons.com, copyright 2022 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #31109. New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission. Hymns reprinted with permission under OneLicense.net #A-739519. Hymns reprinted/streamed with permission under OneLicense.net #A-739519