

# **ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**25 N. ADAMS STREET, YORK, PA 17404**

**PHONE: 717-854-7198**

***The Rev. Katrina Holland, Interim Pastor***



**19<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF PENTECOST**

***October 11, 2020***

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**19<sup>th</sup> Sunday Pentecost**

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**October 11, 2020**

**Congregation reads bolded text.**

*In Isaiah we are given a vision of the great feast to come, when God will wipe away death forever. In Jesus' parable about a great banquet, those invited do not come, so the invitation is extended to others. In our liturgy God spreads a table before us. Even amid anxiety and hardship we rejoice in the peace of God which surpasses all understanding. With great joy we feast at the table of the Lord, and we go forth to share the wonderful invitation with others hungry and thirsting for the abundant life of God.*

**PRELUDE** At the Lamb's High Feast H. Gadsch/B. Heroldt  
*Text for meditation: At the Lamb's high feast we sing praise to our victorious king.*

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*(All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism)*

**P:** We confess our sins before God and one another. (Silence for reflection)  
God of all ages, you have chosen us as your own, yet we often live as if it were not so. We succumb to things which are not good for us.

**C: We repent.**

**P:** We believe we know better than you.

**C: We repent.**

**P:** We refuse to trust your promises.

**C: We repent.**

**P:** Sweep away our foolishness and bring us back into a trusting relationship with the one who has lovingly created us and longs to be our strength and life.

**C: We cry.**

**P:** God hears the cries of all who call out in need, and through his death and resurrection, Christ has made us his own. Hear the truth that God proclaims: Your sins are forgiven in the name of ✝ Jesus Christ. Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness to do God's work in the world. **C: Amen.**

## Prayer of the Day

Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## SCRIPTURE

*All daily scripture lessons for the day are below. All of today's lessons may not be read in the service. We invite you to read scripture throughout the day and week.*

### First Reading: Isaiah 25:1-9

*After a hymn of praise acknowledging God as a shelter for the poor, the prophet portrays a wonderful victory banquet at which death—which in ancient Canaan was depicted as a monster swallowing up everyone—will be swallowed up forever. The prophet urges celebration of this victory of salvation.*

<sup>1</sup>O LORD, you are my God; I will exalt you, I will praise your name;  
for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure.

<sup>2</sup>For you have made the city a heap, the fortified city a ruin;  
the palace of aliens is a city no more, it will never be rebuilt.

<sup>3</sup>Therefore strong peoples will glorify you; cities of ruthless nations will  
fear you.

<sup>4</sup>For you have been a refuge to the poor, a refuge to the needy in their  
distress,

a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.

When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,

<sup>5</sup>the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place, you subdued the heat with  
the shade of clouds; the song of the ruthless was stilled.

<sup>6</sup>On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples

a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,

of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

<sup>7</sup>And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all  
peoples,

the sheet that is spread over all nations; <sup>8</sup>he will swallow up death  
forever.

Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces,

and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,

for the LORD has spoken. <sup>9</sup>It will be said on that day,

Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.

This is the LORD for whom we have waited;

let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

### **Psalm: Psalm 23**

*You prepare a table before me, and my cup is running over. (Ps. 23:5)*

<sup>1</sup>The LORD | is my shepherd; I shall not | be in want.

<sup>2</sup>**The LORD makes me lie down | in green pastures  
and leads me be- | side still waters.**

<sup>3</sup>You restore my | soul, O LORD,  
and guide me along right pathways | for your name's sake.

<sup>4</sup>**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I  
shall | fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff,  
they | comfort me.**

<sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence | of my enemies,  
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is | running over.

<sup>6</sup>**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days | of my  
life, and I will dwell in the house of the | LORD forever.**

### **Second Reading: Philippians 4:1-9**

*Though writing from prison and facing an uncertain future, Paul calls on the Philippians to rejoice and give thanks to God no matter what the circumstance. God's peace is with us and binds together our hearts and minds in Jesus Christ, especially when things around us do not seem peaceful.*

<sup>1</sup>My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

<sup>2</sup>I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. <sup>3</sup>Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

<sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. <sup>5</sup>Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup>Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

<sup>8</sup>Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. <sup>9</sup>Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

+ [P] The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. **[C] Glory to you, O Lord.**

### **Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14**

*Jesus tells a parable indicating that the blessings of God's kingdom are available to all, but the invitation is not to be taken lightly.*

<sup>1</sup>Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: <sup>2</sup>“The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. <sup>3</sup>He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. <sup>4</sup>Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ <sup>5</sup>But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, <sup>6</sup>while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. <sup>7</sup>The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. <sup>8</sup>Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. <sup>9</sup>Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ <sup>10</sup>Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

<sup>11</sup>“But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, <sup>12</sup>and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. <sup>13</sup>Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ <sup>14</sup>For many are called, but few are chosen.”

[P] The Gospel of the Lord.

**[C] Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **MEDITATION**

### **MUSIC FOR MEDITATION**

At the Lamb’s High Feast

P. Manz

*Text for meditation: From sin’s pow’r, Lord, set us free, newborn souls in your to be. Alleluia!*

## **Prayers**

P: With confidence in God’s grace and mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need. (*A brief silence.*)

Gracious host, fill your church with a spirit of joyous hospitality. We pray for bishops, teachers, church leaders, and all children of God as they invite others to your table of boundless grace. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

Gracious host, as creation waits with eager longing for redemption, protect your creatures that are mistreated. Restore valleys, mountains and pastures, and still and running waters. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

Gracious host, as you set a table in the presence of enemies, so bless the efforts of diplomats, international peace workers, and world leaders who navigate conflict. May they proceed with dialogue and understanding, so that justice and peace prevails. Lord, in your mercy,  
**C: hear our prayer.**

Gracious host, let your gentleness be known among those who are weary or ill (*especially*). Strengthen doctors, medical care workers, and caretakers who see to their needs. Lord, in your mercy,  
**C: hear our prayer.**

Gracious host, when we are quick to judge outward appearance, remind us how you clothe all in your mercy. We pray for ministries that provide needed clothing and other personal care assistance in this community (*local ministries can be named*). Lord, in your mercy,  
**C: hear our prayer.**

*(Other petitions may be included here)*

Gracious host, as we remember those who have died and are gathered at the heavenly banquet, comfort us with your presence. Assure us of your peace at all times. Lord, in your mercy,  
**C: hear our prayer.**

Listen as we call on you, O God, and enfold in your loving arms all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **SHARING CHRIST'S PEACE**

*(All are invited to share a sign of peace - a wave, peace sign or text - and remain in your pew)*

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

### **HOLY COMMUNION**

P: In the night in which he was betrayed.....

**LORD'S PRAYER** (spoken very softly or in the silence of your heart)

P: 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.**

## BLESSING OF QUILTS & BLANKETS

### BLESSING

P: Mothering God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life. **Amen.**

### DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Remember the poor. **C: Thanks be to God.**

*Please remain in your seat for an usher to dismiss you. Thank you.*

**POSTLUDE**      Now We Join in Celebration      G. Mear  
*Text for meditation: Now we join in celebration at our Savior's invitation,  
dressed no more in spirit somber, clothed instead in joy and wonder.*

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## CHURCH NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Sunday, October 11, 2020

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WELCOME to St. James Lutheran Church! May you know God's grace, peace, joy, and love as we hear the Holy Scriptures read, hear the Word of God preached, receive the Holy Communion, and worship together this morning (in person, via LiveStream or You Tube) in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. *Pastor Katrina and the people of St. James*

**Let Us Remember in Our Prayers** the following: Steve Ferree, Gloria Becker, Dave Eckert, Barb Hourle, Erik Leach, Larry Bankert, and Wade Young. We pray for all those mourning the death of loved ones especially the family and friends of Tina Hoff. We also pray for those in the military, Benjamin (Ben) Reeder, Brodey Decker, Adam Reed, and Lakyn Wedlock..

**NOTE:** Please call the church office (717-854-7198) and leave a message or send an email request to [secretary@stjamesyork.org](mailto:secretary@stjamesyork.org) with additional names to be added to the prayer chain.

**ST. JAMES PHONE PRAYER CHAIN** - The prayer chain is an important quick prayer service ministry for members of St. James. Members, with permission, may initiate prayer requests for family, friends, or other members. Those wanting to add a name to the PHONE PRAYER CHAIN are asked to please contact Shirley Trout, **717-846-4784**, Janice Sewell, **717-767-4122**, or Deb Meckley, **717-764-0372**.



Council approved the following: **October** - Sunday worship services will be in person at the church, following CDC and Covid team guidelines. Services will also be Facebook LIVE streamed every Sunday at 9:00 a.m.

**NO** Sunday School for children and youth this week.

Children & Youth are invited to join with us for Sunday School next Sunday, October 18<sup>th</sup>, at 9:45 a.m.

**The Central PA Blood Bank is in dire need of blood.** If anyone would like to donate this precious GIFT OF LIFE, that ONLY we can give, Apple Hill Medical Center on Monument Rd in York will gladly accept your donation for the Central PA Blood Bank. Donation is by **APPOINTMENT ONLY**. Please call **(717)741-8307** to schedule an appointment. Please give the **church's number 1098** when you donate to credit the church with your donation. What a great act of stewardship this would be to donate! *Deb Meckley, Stewardship Comm.*



**LUTHERAN HOME AUXILIARY** Annual Membership Drive that benefits residents of Kelly and Sprenkle villages will continue today through next Sunday, October 18<sup>th</sup>. Members of the Social Ministry Committee will be contacting (in person or by phone) previous auxiliary members to invite them to renew their membership. New members also welcomed during this time. If you would like to join please contact Norma Smith (717-845-7362) or Pat Mummert (717-792-0161).



**INGATHERING OF BLANKETS** - In addition to sending quilts to LWR the Social Ministry Committee will be including blankets and would appreciate donations. All blankets must be new and approx. 60" x 80". No fleece blankets or throws, no child size blankets. Blankets will be accepted through October 18<sup>th</sup>. Those who would like to donate a blanket, but do not want to shop may make a cash donation (in an envelope marked BLANKETS) and members of the Social Ministry Committee will do the shopping for you. Blanket donation envelopes (and offering envelopes) may be dropped in the church's locked mailbox located near the red entrance doors.

**ST. JAMES PEACEMAKERS (QUILTERS)** are in need of gently used sheets that can be used as backing for their quilts. Donations must be cotton or cotton/blend sheets. LWR regulations requires that the quilts be made with no 100% polyester materials. Quilters are also in need of monetary donations to purchase the batting material that is used inside the quilts. A box will be provided at the church for sheet donations and monetary donations may be placed in an envelope marked "QUILTERS" and placed in the offering plate or in the outside mailbox.

**WEST YORK BULLDOG PANTRY FOOD DRIVE** – Today through Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>. The school pantry depletes rapidly and is need of being replenished. To refill the pantry the following items are needed: canned fruit, soup, vegetables, cereal and cereal bars, pasta & sauce, peanut butter & jelly, toilet paper and paper towels. Your donations should be dropped off at the church – DO NOT TAKE TO THE SCHOOL. (Foods from the pantry are distributed to students/families monthly.)

**PLEASE NOTE:** Church will be open on Monday AND Friday mornings - 9-11 a.m. All donations: blankets, foods, sheets, and monetary can be dropped off during this time. If unable to drop off donations during these hours, please contact Pat Mummert (717-792-0161) or Norma Smith (717-845-7362) to make other arrangements.

**COMMUNITY AID BOX** - We have been notified by Community Aid that the collection box on the church parking lot will soon be removed. After removal of the box if you have clothing to donate you may deliver donations to the Thrift Store on Springwood Rd (the old Bon-Ton.) St. James will remain a partner with Community Aid and will continue to receive credit @ \$.06 per pound for clothing donations. When dropping off your items please provide our **St. James, West York, Partner number – 20121.**



SCHEDULED BUS TRIP FOR THE BIRD-IN-HAND CHRISTMAS SHOW **HAS NOT BEEN CANCELLED** – SHOW WILL GO ON – **Tuesday, November 10<sup>th</sup>** – those interested in attending are asked to please contact Rosemary Rafferty at 717-767-2563 or 717-424-1776.

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ATTENDANCE & OFFERING – Sunday, October 4<sup>th</sup> - 40  
 Current - \$3,555, Benevolence - \$309, Communion - \$140, Building Fd. - \$30, Stewardship - \$50, Quilt shipping costs - \$100, York Conference Tutoring - \$100, June Yeager Mem. Fd. - \$100, Sunday School (10) \$2.50

**TREASURER’S REPORT – September 2020**

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Actual Current Receipts –	\$ 9,813	\$122,092
Actual Current Expenses	<u>\$22,155</u>	<u>\$174,688</u>
	[-\$ 12,342]	[-\$52,596]

*(Does not include Building Fund Receipts.)*

Actual Benevolence Receipts	\$ 221	\$3,345
Actual Benevolence Disbursements	\$ 221	\$3,345

Transferred \$12,000 to checking

*(Year to Date total transfer from Savings to Checking - \$50,000)*

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**INSTAGRAM: @stjameslutheranwypa / SNAPCHAT: @ stjameswypa**

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