

# ***ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH***

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

***PHONE: 717-854-7198***

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



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

***October 18, 2020***

*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*

# Worship Preview

As we continue our in person worship we want to let you know what you can expect when you worship with us at St. James.

The COVID Team and Council have put a lot of thought and effort into these protocols with the intention of making this a safe experience for all those who attend.

**We ask that if you do not feel well, that you do not attend in person worship and join us on Facebook Live.**

**Masks:** You will need to wear a mask at all times while inside the church.

**Spacing:** You are asked to keep at least a six foot distance between yourself/your family unit and others, especially in the hallways as you enter into the building and worship space.

**Sign in:** You will be asked to sign in before entering the sanctuary so we have a record of all people attending worship. We have room for approximately 65 people in the sanctuary, with overflow in the adult Sunday School Room, which would require you to watch on your electronic devices.

**Movement:** You will be asked to go directly to your seat and not visit with other people while standing in the hallway or aisles. You will be required to stay in the hallway and the sanctuary areas only.

**Greeter/Ushers:** When you walk in the door you will see a greeter/usher who will help direct you in the necessary traffic flow.

**Sanitizing:** You will be asked to sanitize your hands before you enter the sanctuary.

**Signage:** You will see signs reminding you to wear a mask and to maintain social distance.

**Bulletins:** You will be able to print or bring with you on your electronic device a bulletin that is emailed to you by Saturday. A very limited number of printed bulletins will be available for those that do not have this printing ability. Please let an usher know, who will bring you one once you are seated and before the service begins.

**Seating:** You will enter the sanctuary using the back doors. You will be directed to a seat by the ushers. We will be seating from the front of the church to the back. Additionally, we will be sitting in every other pew and will maintain at least six feet of distance between families. We understand that you may miss your "regular" seat. We ask your cooperation as this will allow us to more efficiently seat people.

**Music:** You will be able to enjoy music during the service, but there will not be any group singing.

**Speaking:** You will be able to participate in the Lord's Prayer in a soft voice. You will also be able to speak some responses in a soft voice.

**Sharing the Peace:** You will be able to share the peace from your seat. You may wave at others, but will not be able to hug, shake hands, or touch people outside of your family.

**Communion:** You will have a communion packet available as you leave the church and will be asked to partake of communion upon leaving the church.

**Dismissal:** You will be directed to leave the church by the ushers. We will dismiss by rows, starting in the front and working to the back. We will exit from the Adams St. doors located at the front of the sanctuary.

**Offering:** You will be able to leave your offering in either the locked mailbox before you enter the building or at a stationary offering basket in the sanctuary.

**Bathroom:** The bathrooms on the ground and sanctuary floors will be available.

**Parking lot:** You will be able to visit with your brothers and sisters in Christ in the parking lot if you wish. Please socially distance while doing so. Masks are recommended.

**Nursery:** The nursery will not be available.

**Time:** The service will last approximately 30 minutes.

**Cleaning:** The sanctuary and narthex have undergone cleaning prior to the first service. These areas are also cleaned every week following CDC guidelines.

**Community:** We ask that you follow all of these protocols. If you are unable or unwilling to follow all of these protocols, we ask that you wait to join us until you are comfortable.

**Congregation reads bolded text.**

*In today's first reading God uses the Gentile ruler Cyrus to accomplish divine purposes. When the Pharisees try to trap Jesus, he tells them to give the emperor what belongs to him and to God what belongs to God. To gather for worship reminds us that our ultimate allegiance is to God rather than to any earthly authority. Created in the image of God, we offer our entire selves in the service of God and for the sake of the world.*

**Prelude**      God Is Here!

S. P. Folkemer

*Text for meditation: "God is here! Here in newness and renewal, God the Spirit comes to each."*

**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**

Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, 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 45:1-7

*The prophet announces that Cyrus the Persian emperor is the one the LORD has anointed to end Israel's exile. The LORD makes this choice so that the whole world will recognize this LORD as the only God. Persia had a god of light and a god of darkness; the LORD claims sovereignty over both light and darkness.*

<sup>1</sup>Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations before him and strip kings of their robes, to open doors before him— and the gates shall not be closed:

<sup>2</sup>I will go before you and level the mountains,  
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze  
and cut through the bars of iron,

<sup>3</sup>I will give you the treasures of darkness  
and riches hidden in secret places,  
so that you may know that it is I, the LORD,  
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.

<sup>4</sup>For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen,  
I call you by your name,  
I surname you, though you do not know me.

<sup>5</sup>I am the LORD, and there is no other;  
besides me there is no god.

I arm you, though you do not know me,  
<sup>6</sup>so that they may know, from the rising of the sun  
and from the west, that there is no one besides me;  
I am the LORD, and there is no other.

<sup>7</sup>I form light and create darkness,  
I make weal and create woe;  
I the LORD do all these things.

### Psalm: Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13]

*Ascribe to the LORD honor and power. (Ps. 96:7)*

<sup>1</sup>Sing to the LORD | a new song; sing to the LORD, | all the earth.

<sup>2</sup>**Sing to the LORD, bless the name | of the LORD;  
proclaim God's salvation from | day to day.**

<sup>3</sup>Declare God's glory a- | mong the nations  
and God's wonders a- | mong all peoples.

<sup>4</sup>**For great is the LORD and greatly | to be praised,  
more to be feared | than all gods.**

<sup>5</sup>As for all the gods of the nations, they | are but idols;  
but you, O LORD, have | made the heavens.

<sup>6</sup>**Majesty and magnificence are | in your presence;  
power and splendor are in your | sanctuary.**

<sup>7</sup>Ascribe to the LORD, you families | of the peoples,  
ascribe to the LORD hon- | or and power.

<sup>8</sup>**Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the | holy name;  
bring offerings and enter the courts | of the LORD.**

<sup>9</sup>Worship the LORD in the beau- | ty of holiness;  
tremble before the LORD, | all the earth.

<sup>10</sup>**Tell it out among the nations: "The | LORD is king!  
The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will  
judge the peo- | ples with equity."**

<sup>11</sup>Let the heavens rejoice, and let the | earth be glad;  
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that | is  
therein.

<sup>12</sup>**Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your com- | ing,  
O LORD,  
for you come to | judge the earth.**

<sup>13</sup>You will judge the | world with righteousness  
and the peoples | with your truth.

### **Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10**

*Most likely this letter is the first written by Paul. Paul gives pastoral encouragement and reassurances to new Christians living in an antagonistic environment. Their commitment of faith, love, and hope makes them a model for other new Christian communities.*

<sup>1</sup>Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:  
Grace to you and peace.

<sup>2</sup>We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly <sup>3</sup>remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, <sup>5</sup>because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. <sup>6</sup>And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, <sup>7</sup>so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. <sup>8</sup>For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. <sup>9</sup>For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, <sup>10</sup>and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

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

### **Gospel: Matthew 18: 12 – 14**

**"Jesus says to his disciples, "What do you think? If a man owns a hundred sheep, and one of them wanders away, will he not leave the ninety-nine on the hills and go to look for the one that wandered off? And if he finds it, truly I tell you, he is happier about that one sheep than about the ninety-nine that did not wander off. In the same way your Father in heaven is not willing that any of these little ones should perish."**

[P] The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## **MEDITATION**

**MUSIC FOR MEDITATION** God of Grace and God of Glory

P. Manz

*Text for meditation: "Let the gift of your salvation be our glory evermore."*

## **Prayers**

*The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.*

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 God, you call us by name and invite us to share your good news. Send your Holy Spirit among preachers, missionaries, and evangelists. We give thanks for the witness of your servant Luke, the evangelist, whom the church commemorates today. Lord, in your mercy,

**C. hear our prayer.**

God of praise, the heavens and all creation declare your salvation. From the rising of the sun to its setting, may the whole universe show forth your goodness. Raise up devoted stewards of all that you have made. Lord, in your mercy,

**C. hear our prayer.**

God of all, may your word of justice sound forth in every place. Restore divided nations and communities with reconciling truth. Lord, in your mercy,

**C. hear our prayer.**

God of light, we pray for those living with pain, illness, isolation, grief, anger, or doubt (*especially*). Join their voices in a new song, assuring them that you call them each by name. Lord, in your mercy,

**C. hear our prayer.**

God of truth, you show no partiality. May your spirit guide the work of justices, magistrates, court officials, and all vocations of the law, that your promise of restoration may be known. Lord, in your mercy,

**C. hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Living God, as you raised Jesus from the dead, so raise up those who have died in you (*especially*). We give thanks for their witness, confident of your rescuing welcome for all. 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**

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.*

**Communion Meditation**      Jesus, Priceless Treasure      J. S. Bach

*Text for meditation: "Thine I am, O spotless Lamb; nothing in this world can hide thee, naught I ask beside thee."*

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**CHURCH NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
**Sunday, October 18, 2020**

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**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.

**Sunday School for children and youth this week – 9:45 a.m.**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,



It is with great expectation that we will reorganize the Adult Sunday School Class at St. James on January 3, 2021. There will be, of course, precautions to be observed with safety protocol developed by the Covid team being the utmost concern. Because of the age of our group we must be extraordinarily cautious of our actions as far as wearing masks

and social distancing.

We will as always have open forum discussion. We will also be revisiting the "Intentional Christian." I am looking forward to getting back to our discussions.

*Sincerely yours, Mike Cooper*

**LUTHERAN HOME AUX.** Membership Drive for the residents of Kelly and Sprengle villages will conclude today. If you would like to renew or join the auxiliary, please contact Norma Smith (717-845-7362) or Pat Mummert (717-792-0161).

**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.*



**ST. JAMES QUILTERS** need gently used sheets that can be used as backing for their quilts. Donations must be cotton or cotton/blend sheets. LWR regulations require 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 be removed. Please watch for announcement letting you know that the box has been picked up and donations can then be delivered to the Community Aid store on Springwood Road.



Upcoming Youth Group Movie Night – November 27<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 p.m. We will be showing the movie "Home Alone". There will be a hot chocolate bar and yummy cookies for the youth to enjoy, so wear your comfy clothes and bring your blankets/ chairs and enjoy this holiday favorite to help kick off the season!

**ST. JAMES SENIORS GROUP** – PLEASE NOTE: The Annual Christmas Luncheon that was to be held at the Dover Fire Hall has been cancelled for 2020 due to Covid-19 restrictions. *Best wishes to all for a happy and healthy holiday season.*

ATTENDANCE & OFFERING – Sunday, October 11<sup>th</sup> - 42  
 Current - \$2,596, Benevolence - \$179, Communion - \$10, Building Fd. - \$90, Quilt shipping costs - \$60, June Yeager Mem. Fd -\$100, Urey/Meals Music Ministry-\$100

**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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**SAFELY TOGETHER HOW TO REPORT TO YOUR CHURCH IF YOU HAVE SYMPTOMS OF OR ARE DIAGNOSED WITH COVID-19**

There is a direct, confidential process in place to both prayerfully care for you should you, God forbid it, find that you have developed symptoms of or have been diagnosed with COVID-19 AND to notify those individuals that may have come in contact with you while at St. James (in worship, during Sunday School, in a meeting or ministry team event).

Please call ANITA ASHTON at 717-870-5449 that you have spoken with a medical professional, are being tested for, or are suspicious that you have developed symptoms of or that you have had a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19.

Anita is a licensed Physician's Assistant and will keep your information confidential. She will listen to you, and, using her medical experience on behalf of the congregation, will know when to alert the COVID team. The team can then take the quick and necessary next steps of contacting all individuals present on the same date to inform them of exposure.

We are not acting in the place of your own medical doctors. Our responsibility is simply to inform our faith community when they may have been exposed to a suspected or confirmed case of the virus so that you can then seek appropriate guidance from trained medical professionals.

Things can be confusing in this time, including what constitutes "exposure" "quarantine" and "isolation." The COVID team has sought direct guidance from the PA Health Department COVID Team, as well as having both Anita and Rod (both of whom work in the medical field) on the team to translate guidelines. You should feel very confident that you are in safe and competent hands in this process.

So, again....

ANITA ASHTON 717-870-5449 is the confidential call that you make if you suspect that you may have or have been confirmed to have COVID 19 and have been at church. Be well and stay safe!

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## **UPDATE FROM TECH COMMITTEE**

With the good news that we have returned to the sanctuary for our weekly church services, the technology committee would like to inform you of changes that will help enhance the worshipping experience.

1. The wireless service in the church has been improved. Bring your tablets and smartphones to access the daily readings, prayers and announcements during the service. You will need to login onto James-Visitor, password "guest12345".
2. Social media through Facebook, Instagram, and Snapchat are active for St. James. Follow us at:

**INSTAGRAM:** @stjameslutheranwypa

**SNAPCHAT:** @ stjameswypa

**FACEBOOK:** St. James Lutheran Church York, PA

**WEBPAGE:** <https://www.stjamesyork.org>

3. If your committee or organization would like to advertise events, the first step is to notify the church office. Pat will check to insure there are no conflicts and add it to the church calendar. After notifying the office, you can provide information on events to the following social media administrators. If you would also like to show pictures or provide a write up of your activities on our social media, please contact the administrators:

**Facebook:** Pastor Katrina - [pastorkatrinaholland@gmail.com](mailto:pastorkatrinaholland@gmail.com)  
Ann Bridge - [azb.1@comcast.net](mailto:azb.1@comcast.net)  
Stephen Folkemer - [sfolkemer@uls.edu](mailto:sfolkemer@uls.edu)

**Instagram:** Jean Wanamaker - [jwanamaker1991@gmail.com](mailto:jwanamaker1991@gmail.com)  
Jacob Drawbaugh - [rdrawbaugh@verizon.net](mailto:rdrawbaugh@verizon.net)

**Snapchat:** Jean Wanamaker - [jwanamaker1991@gmail.com](mailto:jwanamaker1991@gmail.com)  
Jacob Drawbaugh - [rdrawbaugh@verizon.net](mailto:rdrawbaugh@verizon.net)

**Webpage:** Jean Wanamaker - [jwanamaker1991@gmail.com](mailto:jwanamaker1991@gmail.com)  
Wes Ashton - [wesashton1994@gmail.com](mailto:wesashton1994@gmail.com)

Any questions or concerns please contact Ann Bridge. May God bless us as we move forward with the reopening of the church and our struggles with the pandemic.

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10/2020