

“By My Works I Will Show You My Faith”
James 2:18
March 29, 2020



**ST. JAMES EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
LCMS**

2040 Oakwood Avenue N.E.
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49505

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- Sunday:** 9:30 a.m. Worship (**Facebook Live**)
11:00 a.m. Bible study (**Facebook Live**)
- Daily @ NOON** (Mon-Thurs). Devotions w/Pastor
(**Facebook Live**)
- Mon.** 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Lord's Supper
Available at St. James
- Wed.** 7:00 p.m. Lenten service (**Facebook Live**)
- Thurs.** 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Lord's Supper
Available at St. James.
- Next Sunday:** 9:30 a.m. Worship (**Facebook Live**)
11:00 a.m. Bible study (**Facebook Live**)

Pastor Glenn Schaeffer

glenn.schaeffer@stjamesgr.com

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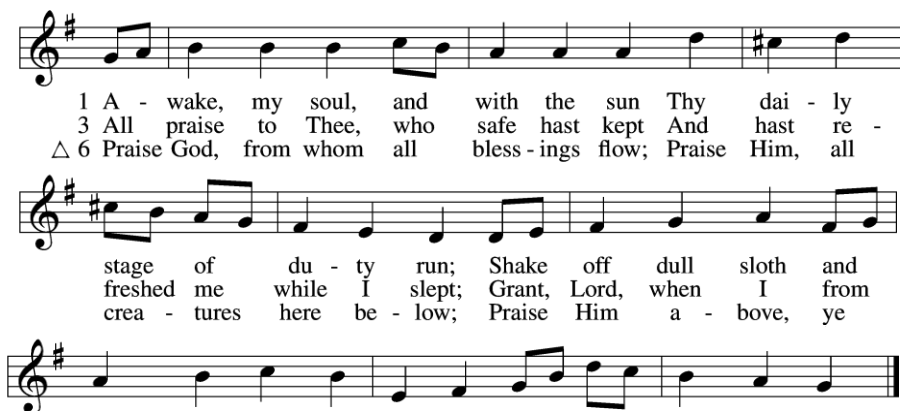
St. James Church Office: 363-7718
Secretary e-mail: office@stjamesgr.com
Website: www.stjamesgr.com

Sermons, newsletters & highlights are on line.

THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Welcome

The Opening Hymn: LSB 868, "Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun" (verses 1, 3, 6)



1 A - wake, my soul, and with the sun Thy dai - ly
3 All praise to Thee, who safe hast kept And hast re -
△ 6 Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise Him, all
stage of du - ty run; Shake off dull sloth and
freshed me while I slept; Grant, Lord, when I from
crea - tures here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye
joy - ful rise To pay thy morn - ing sac - ri - fice.
death shall wake, I may of end - less light par - take.
heav'n - ly host: Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Tune and text: Public domain

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the
✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Exhortation *LSB 151*

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive
ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is
faithful and just, will forgive our sins
and cleanse us from all
unrighteousness.**

Confession of Sins *LSB 151*

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Absolution *LSB 151*

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

The Psalm of the Day – Psalm 130

P: Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD!

C: O Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for mercy!

P: If you, O LORD, should judge us according to our sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C: But with you there is forgiveness, that you may be revered.

P: I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in His Word I hope;

C: My soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning.

P: O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with Him is plentiful redemption.

C: And He will redeem Israel from all his sin.

The Prayer of the Day

P: Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon us that we may be preserved in good mental, physical and spiritual health, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever."

C: Amen.

The Old Testament Reading: Ezekiel 37:1-14

The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. And he said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophesy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD."

So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them.

Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath; prophecy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live." So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.

Then he said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are clean cut off.' Therefore prophecy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the LORD."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

The Epistle Reading: Romans 8:1-11

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds

on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

A Song: LSB #771,

“Be Still, My Soul, before the Lord”



1 Be still, my soul, be - fore the Lord, For
 2 You need not mul - ti - ply your words Nor
 3 Wait, then, in qui - et con - fi - dence, Your
 4 Be still, my soul, be - fore the Lord; On



God is al - ways near. Be - fore your mind is
 pray with prac - ticed art. Be - yond all speech, God
 anx - ious thoughts at rest. God knows your needs be -
 God in pa - tience wait. God's love, un - seen, sur -



moved to pray, God lis - tens and will hear.
 un - der - stands The hun - ger of your heart.
 fore you ask And works for what is best.
 rounds your life; God's help will not be late.

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The Gospel: John 11:17-27, 38-53

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eleventh chapter.

G **Glory to You, O Lord.**

When Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world." . . .

Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice,

“Lazarus, come out.” The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what he did, believed in him, but some of them went to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done. So the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered the Council and said, “What are we to do? For this man performs many signs. If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation.” But one of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, “You know nothing at all. Nor do you understand that it is better for you that one man should die for the people, not that the whole nation should perish.” He did not say this of his own accord, but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation, and not for the nation only, but also to gather into one the children of God who are scattered abroad. So from that day on they made plans to put him to death.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

The Apostles' Creed

**C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.**

**The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father
Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living
and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life † everlasting. Amen.**

The Sermon Hymn: "Ancient Words" (De Shazo)

Verse 1

Holy words long preserved
For our walk in this world
They resound with God's own heart
O let the ancient words impart

Verse 2

Words of life words of hope
Give us strength help us cope
In this world where'er we roam
Ancient words will guide us home

Chorus

***Ancient words ever true
Changing me changing you
We have come with open hearts
O let the ancient words impart***

Verse 3

Holy words of our faith
Handed down to this age
Came to us through sacrifice
O heed the faithful words of Christ (**chorus**)

Verse 4

Martyr's blood stains each page
They have died for this faith
Hear them cry through the years
Heed these words and hold them dear (**chorus**)

Ending

We have come with open hearts
O let the ancient words impart
O let the ancient words impart

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The Sermon: Ezekiel 37: 1-14 – “The Members of St. James Value Christian Education and Personal Discipleship”

The Offering

**The Prayers of the Church and
The Lord’s Prayer**

The Benediction

P: The Lord bless you ...

The Closing Hymn: “Amazing Grace, My Chains are Gone” (Tomlin/Giglio)

Verse 1

Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now I'm found
Was blind but now I see

Verse 2

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed

Chorus

***My chains are gone I've been set free
My God my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy rains
Unending love amazing grace***

Verse 3

The Lord has promised good to me
His word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures (**chorus**)

Verse 4

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow
The sun forbear to shine
But God who called me here below
Will be forever mine
Will be forever mine
You are forever mine

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Acknowledgments

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

EVENTS OF THIS WEEK: 3/29/2020 – 4/5/2020

Today: 11:00 a.m. Bible study w/Pastor
(Facebook Live)

Daily @ NOON (Mon-Thurs). Devotions w/Pastor
(Facebook Live)

Mon. 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Lord's Supper
Available at St. James

Wed. 7:00 p.m. Lenten service (Facebook Live)

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11:00 a.m. Bible study (Facebook Live)

For the most up-to-date information, visit [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov).

FINANCIAL DISCIPLESHIP (March 22, 2020)

	<u>Offering</u>
General Fund	\$3,025.00
Reimbursement (LWML)	41.00
Roof Repair Fund	75.00
Contingency Fund	10.00
Plate Collection	9.00
<u>Tessaro Ministry</u>	<u>20.00</u>
Total:	\$3,180.00

The St. James LWML ladies will not be meeting on April 5th. They will not have knit/crochet on the 19th of April. Stayed tuned for information regarding the April 18th. Spring Rally.