

**Grow ... Go ... Gather**  
**February 14, 2021**



**ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**(LCMS)**

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



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# The Transfiguration of Our Lord

## The Order of Service

Please turn off your wifi and wear your masks

### The Preservice Music, the Call to Worship and Welcome

#### The Opening Hymn: LSB 415, "Jesus on the Mountain Peak"



1 Je - sus on the moun - tain peak      Stands a - lone in  
2 Trem - bling at His feet we saw      Mo - ses and E -  
3 Swift the cloud of glo - ry came:      God pro - claim - ing  
4 This is God's be - lov - ed Son!      Law and proph - ets



glo - ry blaz - ing; Let us, if we dare to speak,  
li - jah speak - ing. All the proph - ets and the law  
in its thun - der Je - sus as the Son by name!  
sing be - fore Him, First and Last and on - ly One.



Join the saints and an - gels prais - ing.  
Shout through them their joy - ful greet - ing:  
Na - tions, cry a - loud in won - der,  
All cre - a - tion shall a - dore Him!



Al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia!

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**P:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you

**C: And also with you.**

## **A CONFSSION BASED ON 1 COR. 13**

P: God of Love, we confess we are sometimes impatient, and often unkind. We are quick to envy, and find subtle ways to boast. There are times we are rude, and lift ourselves up as we put others down.

**C: Loving God, teach us to love.**

P: God of Love, we confess that we are quickly angered. We are quick to record how often we've been wronged. There are times we celebrate the misfortune of others.

**C: Loving God, teach us to love.**

P: God of Love, we confess that we put ourselves first. We're reluctant to give, we are slow to sacrifice. There are times we hesitate to protect.

**C: Loving God, teach us to love.**

P: When we are tempted to judge, to assume the worst...

**C: May love remind us to trust.**

P: When we are tempted to despair, to assume all is lost...

**C: May love remind us to hope.**

P: When we are tempted to give up, to assume it will never happen...

**C: May love remind us to persevere.**

**All: Loving God teach us to love. Amen.**

*(Credit: Dan Loewen, re:think worship)*

## **The ABSOLUTION**

P: Take to heart this wonderful declaration from our Lord: May the God of love bring us back to himself, forgive us our sins for Jesus' sake, and assure us of his eternal love in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

**A Hymn of Praise: "God So Loved" (We the Kingdom)**

**Verse 1**

Come all you weary  
Come all you thirsty  
Come to the well that never runs dry  
Drink of the water  
Come and thirst no more

**Verse 2**

Come all you sinners  
Come find His mercy  
Come to the table He will satisfy  
Taste of His goodness  
Find what you're looking for

**Chorus 1**

***For God so loved the world that He gave us  
His one and only Son to save us  
Whoever believes in Him will live forever***

**Verse 3**

Bring all your failures  
Bring your addictions  
Come lay them down at the foot of the cross  
Jesus is waiting there  
With open arms

**Chorus 2**

***For God so loved the world that He gave us  
His one and only Son to save us  
Whoever believes in Him will live forever  
The power of hell forever defeated  
Now it is well I'm walking in freedom  
For God so loved God so loved the world***

## **Bridge**

Praise God praise God  
From whom all blessings flow  
Praise Him praise Him  
For the wonders of His love **(2xs)**

## **Chorus 2**

***For God so loved the world that He gave us  
His one and only Son to save us  
Whoever believes in Him will live forever  
The power of hell forever defeated  
Now it is well I'm walking in freedom  
For God so loved God so loved the world***

## **Verse 3**

Bring all your failures  
Bring your addictions  
Come lay them down at the foot of the cross  
Jesus is waiting  
God so loved the world

CCLI Song # 7138599 Andrew Bergthold | Ed Cash | Franni Cash | Martin Cash | Scott Cash  
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## **The Psalm of the Day: Psalm 25:1-10**

P: To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

**C: O my God, in you I trust; let me not be put to shame; let not my enemies exult over me.**

P: Indeed, none who wait for you shall be put to shame; they shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

**C: Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths.**

P: Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all the day long.

**C: Remember your mercy, O LORD, and your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.**

P: Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions;

**C: According to your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of your goodness, O LORD!**

P: Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

**C: He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way.**

P: All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

**A Hymn: LSB 700, "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"**  
(verses 1, 3, 4)



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of  
3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; Let us  
4 Fin - ish then Thy new cre - a - tion, Pure and



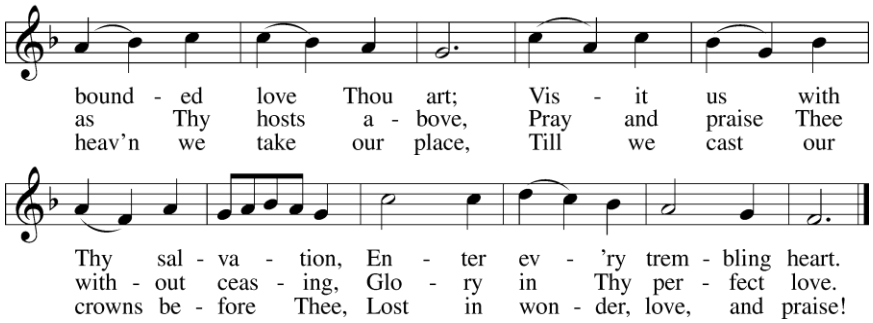
heav'n, to earth come down! Fix in us Thy  
all Thy life re - ceive; Sud - den - ly re -  
spot - less let us be; Let us see Thy



hum - ble dwell - ing, All Thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.  
turn, and nev - er, Nev - er - more Thy tem - ples leave.  
great sal - va - tion Per - fect - ly re - stored in Thee,



Je - sus, Thou art all com - pas - sion, Pure, un -  
Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, Serve Thee  
Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, Till in



bound - ed love Thou art; Vis - it us with  
as Thy hosts a - bove, Pray and praise Thee  
heav'n we take our place, Till we cast our

Thy sal - va - tion, En - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.  
with - out ceas - ing, Glo - ry in Thy per - fect love.  
crowns be - fore Thee, Lost in won - der, love, and praise!

*Tune and text: Public domain*

## The Prayer of the Day

**P:** Let us pray. God of wonder and of joy: grace comes from you, and you alone are the source of life and love. Without you, we cannot please you; without your love and the faith you create in our hearts through your Word, our deeds are worth nothing. Send your Holy Spirit, and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love, that we may worship you today and always with thankful hearts and serve you always with willing minds; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## The Epistle Lesson: 1 John 4:7-12

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever

seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**A Hymn:** LSB 706 "Love in Christ is Strong and Living"



1 Love in Christ is strong and liv - ing, Bind - ing faith - ful  
2 Love is pa - tient and for - bear - ing, Clothed in Christ's hu -  
3 Love in Christ a - bides for - ev - er, Faint - ing not when



hearts in one; Love in Christ is true and giv - ing.  
mil - i - ty, Gen - tle, self - less, kind, and car - ing,  
ills at - tend; Love, for - giv - ing and for - giv - en,



May His will in us be done.  
Reach - ing out in char - i - ty.  
Shall en - dure un - til life's end.

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**The Gospel Lesson:** Mark 9:2-9

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the ninth chapter.

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

After six days Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became radiant, intensely white, as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus. And Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good that we are here. Let us make



three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah." For he did not know what to say, for they were terrified. And a cloud overshadowed them, and a voice came out of the cloud, "This is my beloved Son; listen to him." And suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone with them but Jesus only.

And as they were coming down the mountain, he charged them to tell no one what they had seen, until the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

**The Sermon Hymn: LSB 416, "Swiftly Pass the Clouds of Glory"**



1 Swift - ly pass the clouds of glo-ry, Heav-en's voice, the daz-zling light;  
 2 Glimpsed and gone the rev - e - la-tion, They shall gain and keep its truth,  
 3 Lord, trans - fig - ure our per - ception With the pur - est light that shines,



Mo-ses and E - li - jah van - ish; Christ a - lone com - mands the height!  
 Not by build - ing on the moun-tain An - y shrine or sa - cred booth,  
 And re - cast our life's in - ten - tions To the shape of Your de - signs,



Pe - ter, James, and John fall si - lent, Turn - ing from the sum - mit's rise  
 But by fol - low - ing the Sav - ior Through the val - ley to the cross  
 Till we seek no oth - er glo - ry Than what lies past Cal - v'ry's hill



Down - ward toward the shad - owed val - ley Where their Lord has fixed His eyes.  
 And by test - ing faith's re - sil - ience Through be - tray - al, pain, and loss.  
 And our liv - ing and our dy - ing And our ris - ing by Your will.

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**The Sermon**

**A Hymn:** "Amazing Love/You Are My King" (Chris Tomlin)

**Verse**

I'm forgiven  
Because You were forsaken  
I'm accepted  
You were condemned  
I'm alive and well  
Your Spirit is within me  
Because You died  
And rose again

**Chorus**

Amazing love  
How can it be  
That You my King  
Would die for me  
Amazing love  
I know it's true  
It's my joy to honor You  
In all I do I honor You **(Repeat Verse & Chorus)**

**Bridge**

You are my King  
You are my King  
Jesus You are my King  
Jesus You are my King **(Chorus)**

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**The Offering Prayer and the General Prayer of the Church**

P: We pray for the family of the Church, for loving relationships, and for the life of individuals and families around us. Jesus, Lord of love,

**C: In your mercy, hear us.**

P: Jesus, as you were born in poverty be with families today who are poor and live in hunger and want. Jesus, Lord of love,

**C: In your mercy, hear us.**

P: Jesus, as you grew in wisdom and in favor with God and the people in the family of Joseph the carpenter, bring wisdom and the presence of God into the work and growth of families today. Jesus, Lord of love,

**C: In your mercy, hear us.**

P: Jesus, as you blessed the marriage of a man and woman in the wedding at Cana, be with those preparing for marriage and those who are married. Jesus, Lord of love,

**C: In your mercy, hear us.**

P: Jesus, as you healed Peter's mother-in-law, bring healing to those in our families who are ill today [Pause for quiet personal prayer for those in need] ... Jesus, Lord of love,

**C: In your mercy, hear us.**

P: Jesus, when you were dying you called Mary and John to care for one another. Provide today for those who desire to be married, for orphans and widows, for the bereaved and childless. Jesus, Lord of love,

**C: In your mercy, hear us.**

P: Jesus, as you ate breakfast on the beach with your disciples after you were raised from the dead, bring the whole Church on earth and in heaven into your risen presence to eat at the eternal banquet. Jesus, Lord of love,

**C: In your mercy, hear us, accept our prayers and be with us always. Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

**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;  
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.**

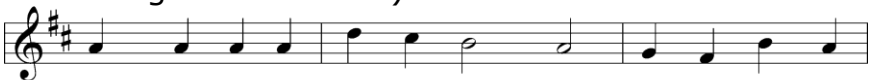
## The Benediction

P: May God the Holy Trinity make you strong in faith and love, defend you on every side, and guide you in truth and peace; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

**C: Amen.**

## Our Farewell to Alleluia: LSB 417, "Alleluia, Song of Gladness"

(Note: We are mourning exiles, who long to be in the heavenly Jerusalem, here, in this hymn, referred to as 'joyful mother.' During Lent, the Church refrains from songs of "alleluia.")



1	Al - le - lu - ia,	song of glad - ness,	Voice of joy that
2	Al - le - lu - ia,	thou re - sound - est,	True Je - ru - sa -
3	Al - le - lu - ia	can - not al - ways	Be our song while
4	There - fore in our	hymns we pray Thee,	Grant us, bless - ed



can - not die;	Al - le - lu - ia	is the an - them
lem and free;	Al - le - lu - ia,	joy - ful moth - er,
here be - low;	Al - le - lu - ia,	our trans - gres - sions
Trin - i - ty,	At the last to keep	Thine Eas - ter



Ev - er raised by choirs on high; In the house of  
 All thy chil - dren sing with thee, But by Bab - y -  
 Make us for a while for - go; For the sol - emn  
 With Thy faith - ful saints on high; There to Thee for -



God a - bid - ing Thus they sing e - ter - nal - ly.  
 lon's sad wa - ters Mourn - ing ex - iles now are we.  
 time is com - ing When our tears for sin must flow.  
 ev - er sing - ing Al - le - lu - ia joy - ful - ly.

*Text and tune: Public domain*



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Worshippers will be ushered out.** Please wait for the usher to come to your pew. If you prefer to leave by the front entrance, please use the middle aisle. If you prefer to leave by the back entrance, please use the outside aisles. Please make every effort to maintain proper social distancing as you leave the church building. Thank you!

Please put your kneeler down before exiting the pew.

## Events of the Week: February 14 - 21, 2021

- TODAY:** 11:00 a.m. Bible study on Facebook  
11:00 a.m. Friends in Faith Meeting
- Monday:** 10:00 a.m. Registration for February 21  
Worship begins  
6:30 p.m. Monday Evening Worship Service  
with Holy Communion
- Tuesday:** 6:15 p.m. **Mardi Gras on Zoom**
- Wed:** 10:00 a.m. "Established in Truth – Marked  
by Love" Bible Study w/ Pastor  
Noon: Devotional Boost with Pastor  
7:00 p.m. **ASH WEDNESDAY Service  
with Holy Communion**
- Thursday:** 6:00 p.m. Bell Choir  
7:30 p.m. "Established in Truth – Marked  
by Love" Bible Study w/ Pastor
- Saturday:** 6:00 p.m. Registration is closed
- Sunday:** 9:00 a.m. Gizmo Devotions on FB  
9:30 a.m. Communion Worship at St.  
James (for registered members) and on  
Facebook Live  
11:00 a.m. Bible Study on FB  
11:00 a.m. **Voters Meeting** in the  
Sanctuary and on Zoom.

**Today's Deacon:** Jerry Talen

**Ushers:** Jim & Nancy Spears

**February Altar Guild:** Lois DeLano and Mary Ward

**Those who serve Ash Wednesday, Feb. 17:**

**Deacons:** Bryan Ensing and Craig Popma

**Ushers:** Walt & Karen Kryzanowski

**February Altar Guild:** Lois DeLano and Mary Ward

**Those who serve February 21:**

**Deacons:** Bryan Ensing and John Weiss

**Ushers:** no one scheduled

**February Altar Guild:** Lois DeLano and Mary Ward

**FINANCIAL DISCIPLESHIP** February 7, 2021

General Fund	\$2,120.00
Future Building Expansion	90.00
Plate Collection	579.00
Mites	10.00
ISJ Academy	150.00
<hr/>	
Total:	\$2,949.00

To **register for worship**, please go to [bit.ly/stjamesgr](https://bit.ly/stjamesgr) and follow the prompts. If you are unable to sign-up for worship, please contact the office at 363-7718.



**Congregational Meeting**



The next ST JAMES **VOTERS' MEETING** is Sunday, **February 21<sup>st</sup>** after worship in the sanctuary and on Zoom. The Zoom link and Agenda will be sent out in the upcoming days.

Questions? Contact Jim Spears or Craig Popma.

**Walt Bartusch is celebrating his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday next Sunday, February 21<sup>st</sup>!**

We invite you to join in celebrating Walt's birthday by sending Walt a card. His address is:

**1010 Edison Ave. NW #205  
Grand Rapids, MI 49504.**

Please note the phone number listed in the directory is incorrect. Walt's phone number is **453-2012**.



## **You Can Create A Season of Hope for Someone!**

This Lent, we are putting God's love in action by making Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits.

We will be assembling these kits at home during the five weeks of Lent. Here's what we need:

- ◆ 2 bars of **soap** (4-5 oz., any brand, in original wrapping)
- ◆ 1 bath **towel** (light-weight, maximum 52" x 27"; 20" x 40" is a good guideline for a minimum size; dark color recommended)
- ◆ 1 **toothbrush** (Adult size, in original packaging)
- ◆ 1 sturdy **comb** (remove packaging)
- ◆ 1 **nail clipper** (metal, attached file optional/remove packaging)

(Complete details are in the February newsletter.)

## **St. James Is Participating in "40 Days for Life" and We Need Your Participation**

Are you willing to pray for one hour to end abortion? 40 Days for Life is a pro-life effort that consists of 40 days of praying, fasting, and holding a peaceful vigil in front of an abortion facility. This will be the 23<sup>rd</sup> campaign in Grand Rapids and will **take place in front of Heritage Clinic for Women at 320 East Fulton Street**. This is the only free-standing surgical abortion facility still operating in our community.

**St. James has adopted Saturday, February 20, from 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. to pray at the peaceful vigil.** We require at least 2 people per hour time slot to be present in front of the abortion facility praying.

Please sign-up **ASAP** for your time slot. To register as prayer vigil participant, please call the church office at 616-363-7718. For more information, contact Pastor Schaeffer. You can also visit [www.40daysforlife.com/GrandRapids](http://www.40daysforlife.com/GrandRapids) for more information about the campaign.