

# Grow ... Go ... Gather

June 27, 2021

The LORD has done great things for us,  
and we are filled with joy.

Psalm 126:3



## ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMS)

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Grand Rapids, Michigan 49505



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offerings: [stjamesgr.com/give](http://stjamesgr.com/give)

# The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

## The Order of Service (Daily Prayer, p.295)

(Please turn off your wifi)

### Preservice Music, Call to Worship and Welcome

#### The Opening Hymn: LSB 803, "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore Thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!  
2 All Thy works with joy sur-round Thee, Earth and heav'n re - flect Thy rays,  
△ 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, Ev - er bless-ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore Thee, Prais-ing Thee, their sun a - bove.  
Stars and an-gels sing a-round Thee, Cen - ter of un - bro-ken praise.  
Well-spring of the joy of liv - ing, O - cean-depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, Drive the gloom of doubt a - way.  
Field and for - est, vale and moun-tain, Flow - 'ry mead-ow, flash-ing sea,  
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it, Foun - tain - head of love di-vine:



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad-ness, Fill us with the light of day.  
Chant-ing bird, and flow - ing foun-tain Call us to re - jice in Thee.  
Joy - ful, we Thy heav'n in - her - it! Joy-ful, we by grace are Thine!

*Tune and text: Public domain*

#### Invocation

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

**C: Amen.**

#### Versicles

P: In the morning, O Lord, You hear my voice;

**C: in the morning I prepare a sacrifice for You and watch.**

P: My mouth is filled with Your praise,  
**C: and with Your glory all the day.**

P: O Lord, open my lips,  
**C: and my mouth will declare Your praise.**

**ALL: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and  
to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will  
be forever. Amen.**

**The Psalm:** Psalm 126 (Read responsively)

P: When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, we  
were like those who dream.

**C: Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and  
our tongue with shouts of joy;**

P: Then they said among the nations, "The LORD has  
done great things for them."

**C: The LORD has done great things for us; we  
are glad.**

P: Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like streams in the  
Negeb!

**C: Those who sow in tears shall reap with  
shouts of joy!**

P: He who goes out weeping, bearing the seed for  
sowing,

**C: Shall come home with shouts of joy, bringing  
his sheaves with him.**

The word "REJOICE!" is written in a highly decorative, calligraphic font. Each letter is filled with a vibrant, multi-colored gradient, transitioning through shades of red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple. The letters are interconnected with flowing, ribbon-like lines that extend from the bottom and sides, creating a sense of movement and joy. The exclamation point at the end is also stylized, with a long, curved tail.

# A Hymn: LSB 818, "In Thee is Gladness"



1 In Thee is glad - ness A - mid all sad - ness, Je - sus,  
2 Since He is ours, \_\_\_\_\_ We fear no pow - ers, Not of  
sun - shine of my heart. By Thee are giv - en The gifts of  
earth nor sin nor death. He sees and bless - es In worst dis -  
heav - en, Thou the true Re - deem - er art. Our souls Thou  
tress - es; He can change them with a breath. Where - fore the  
wak - est, Our bonds Thou break - est; Who trusts Thee sure - ly Has built ses -  
sto - ry Tell of His glo - ry With hearts and voic - es; All heav'n re -  
cure - ly; He stands for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia! Our hearts are  
joy - es In Him for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia! We shout for  
pin - ning To see Thy shin - ing, Dy - ing or liv - ing  
glad - ness, Tri - umph o'er sad - ness, Love Him and praise Him  
To Thee are cleav - ing; Naught can us sev - er: Al - le - lu - ia!  
And still shall raise Him Glad hymns for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia!

*Text and tune: Public domain*

## The Old Testament Lesson: *Lamentations 3:22–33*

The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases;  
his mercies never come to an end;  
they are new every morning;  
great is your faithfulness.

"The LORD is my portion," says my soul,  
"therefore I will hope in him."

The LORD is good to those who wait for him,  
to the soul who seeks him.

It is good that one should wait quietly  
for the salvation of the LORD.  
It is good for a man that he bear  
the yoke in his youth.  
Let him sit alone in silence  
when it is laid on him;  
let him put his mouth in the dust—  
there may yet be hope;  
let him give his cheek to the one who strikes,  
and let him be filled with insults.  
For the Lord will not  
cast off forever,  
but, though he cause grief, he will have  
compassion  
according to the abundance of his steadfast  
love;  
for he does not willingly afflict  
or grieve the children of men.

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

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

### **The Epistle Lesson:** *2 Corinthians 8:1–9, 13–15*

We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia, for in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own free will, begging us earnestly for the favor of taking part in the relief of the saints— and this, not as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then by the will of God to us. Accordingly, we urged Titus that as he had started, so he should complete among you this act of grace.

But as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all earnestness, and in our love for you—see that you excel in this act of grace also.

I say this not as a command, but to prove by the earnestness of others that your love also is genuine. For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich. . . .

I do not mean that others should be eased and you burdened, but that as a matter of fairness your abundance at the present time should supply their need, so that their abundance may supply your need, that there may be fairness. As it is written, “Whoever gathered much had nothing left over, and whoever gathered little had no lack.”

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

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

**A Song:** “Rejoice in the Lord Always and Again I Say Rejoice”

**Chorus**

Rejoice in the Lord always  
Again I say rejoice  
Rejoice in the Lord always  
Again I say rejoice  
Rejoice rejoice  
Again I say rejoice  
Rejoice rejoice  
Again I say rejoice **(repeat)**

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**The Gospel Lesson:** *Mark 5:21–43*

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

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

When Jesus had crossed again in the boat to the other side, a great crowd gathered about him, and he was beside the sea. Then came one of the rulers of the synagogue, Jairus by name, and seeing him, he fell at his feet and implored him earnestly, saying, "My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well and live." And he went with him.

And a great crowd followed him and thronged about him. And there was a woman who had had a discharge of blood for twelve years, and who had suffered much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was no better but rather grew worse. She had heard the reports about Jesus and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his garment. For she said, "If I touch even his garments, I will be made well." And immediately the flow of blood dried up, and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. And Jesus, perceiving in himself that power had gone out from him, immediately turned about in the crowd and said, "Who touched my garments?" And his disciples said to him, "You see the crowd pressing around you, and yet you say, 'Who touched me?'" And he looked around to see who had done it. But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling and fell down before him and told him the whole truth. And he said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease."

While he was still speaking, there came from the ruler's house some who said, "Your daughter is

dead. Why trouble the Teacher any further?" But overhearing what they said, Jesus said to the ruler of the synagogue, "Do not fear, only believe." And he allowed no one to follow him except Peter and James and John the brother of James. They came to the house of the ruler of the synagogue, and Jesus saw a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly. And when he had entered, he said to them, "Why are you making a commotion and weeping? The child is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him. But he put them all outside and took the child's father and mother and those who were with him and went in where the child was. Taking her by the hand he said to her, "Talitha cumi," which means, "Little girl, I say to you, arise." And immediately the girl got up and began walking (for she was twelve years of age), and they were immediately overcome with amazement. And he strictly charged them that no one should know this, and told them to give her something to eat.

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

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

## **The Apostles' Creed**

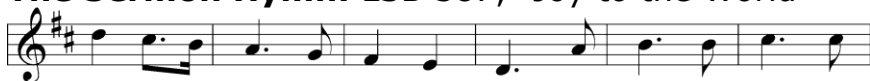
**C** **I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**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: LSB 387, "Joy to the World"**



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her  
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let men their songs em -  
 3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow Nor thorns in - fest the  
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na - tions



King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him  
 ploy, While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and  
 ground; He comes to make His bless - ings  
 prove The glo - ries of His righ - teous -



room And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture  
 plains Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing  
 flow Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is  
 ness And won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His



sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
 joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
 found, Far as, far as the curse is found.  
 love, And won - ders, won - ders of His love.

*Text and tune: Public domain*

**The Sermon: Psalm 126:1-2, "The Joy of Laughter"**

**The Offering**

**The General Prayers of the Church and the Lord's Prayer**

**☑ 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 Concluding Prayers**

P: Almighty God, merciful Father, who created and preserves all things, as we begin a new week of living in Your grace and serving our neighbor, we ask You to forgive us of our sin, grant us Your peace, fill our hearts with joy, and may all the work we do be well-pleasing to You; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**C: Amen.**

### **Luther's Morning Prayer**

**C: I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.**

### **The Blessing**

P: Let us bless the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*Then go joyfully to your work*

**The Closing Hymn: LSB 813, "Rejoice, O Pilgrim Throng"**



1 Re - joice, O pil - grim throng! Re - joice, give  
 2 With voice as full and strong As o - cean's  
 3 With all the an - gel choirs, With all the  
 4 Yet on and on - ward still, With hymn and



thanks, and sing; Your fes - tal ban - ner  
 surg - ing praise, Send forth the stur - dy  
 saints on earth, Pour out the strains of  
 chant and song, Through gate and porch and



wave on high, The cross of Christ your king.  
 hymns of old, The psalms of an - cient days.  
 joy and bliss, True rap - ture, no - blest mirth.  
 col - umned aisle The hal - lowed path - ways throng.

*Refrain*



Re - joice! Re - joice! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing!

5 Still lift your standard high,  
 Still march in firm array,  
 As pilgrims through the darkness wend  
 Till dawns the golden day. **Refrain**

6 At last the march shall end;  
 The wearied ones shall rest;  
 The pilgrims find their home at last,  
 Jerusalem the blest. **Refrain**

△ 7 Praise Him who reigns on high,  
 The Lord whom we adore:  
 The Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,  
 One God forevermore. **Refrain**

*Text and tune: Public domain*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Events of the Week: June 27 – July 4

- TODAY:**    **11:00 a.m.** Bible study on Facebook  
              **11:00 a.m.** Coffee Hour (outside)
- Monday:**   **6:30 p.m.** Monday Evening Worship  
              Service w/ Holy Communion
- Wed:**       **Noon:** Devotional Boost with Pastor  
              **10:00 a.m.** Bible Study w/ Darrell at  
              church
- Friday:**    Pastor's Day off
- Sunday:**   **9:00 a.m.** Gizmo Devotions on FB  
              **9:30 a.m.** COMMUNION WORSHIP at  
              St. James and on Facebook Live  
              **11:00 a.m.** Bible Study on Facebook

**Pastor Schaeffer will be back in the office on Wednesday, June 30<sup>th</sup>. If you are in need of pastoral care, please contact one of our Deacons.**

**Craig Popma   531-6481**  
**Bryan Ensing  589-6925**  
**Jerry Talen   826-7342**  
**John Weiss    773-0805**

### **Those who serve Today:**

**Deacon:** Craig Popma

**Ushers:** Nate, Kim, Hayden and Heath Urbanski

### **Those who serve July 4:**

**Deacons:** Jerry Talen and Bryan Ensing

**Ushers:** Walt & Karen Kryzanowski

**July Altar Guild:** Phyllis Schultz and Shirley Genter

**FINANCIAL DISCIPLESHIP:** June 20, 2021

General Fund	\$10,367.00
Memorial (Doris Ardis)	1,000.00
<hr/>	
Total:	\$11,367.00



**Please refrain** from wearing strong perfume and aftershave. Thank you!

**An Opportunity to be Equipped and Inspired as A Follower of Christ.** The Best Practices Heartland Conference will be hosted by St Lorenz Lutheran Church in Frankenmuth, Michigan, **September 19-21, 2021**. The conference will feature a variety of workshops and keynote speakers that will address almost every aspect of a congregation's mission and ministry. Registration for the conference is free and meals are provided. Participants pay for lodging and transportation. For more information, you can search "bestpracticesheartland" on Facebook. You can also visit: <https://stlorenz.org/ministries/best-practices/>. If you are interested, **please talk with Pastor Schaeffer ASAP.**



## **Openings for all Positions!!!**

As we restore our in-person worshipping practices, we need:

- **Musicians** who are interested in playing pre-service music or music during communion or singing in a small group or as a soloist or cantor or accompanying the congregational hymns and helping to lead the congregation in singing new hymns and songs;
- **Artists** who will enhance our worship with their creative artistic skills;
- **Acolytes** to assist with lighting of candles, collecting the offering, participating in processions;
- **Ushers** who will assist with getting the sanctuary prepared for worship, welcoming people, distributing bulletins, collecting the offering and guiding people forward for Holy Communion;
- **Sound/camera operators** as we provide our worship services for people at home; and
- **Readers** for the Old Testament and Epistle lessons.
- **Altar Guild members** to prepare Holy Communion on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month. This is a one-month commitment working with other altar guild members.

People, ages 4-104, are welcome to participate! If you have questions about what may be expected of you, please contact the office and we will direct you to the person who can answer your questions.

**Volunteer Drivers Needed:** We are looking for volunteers to drive two individuals to/from church. One lives on the south end of Grand Rapids (south of Woodland Mall) and the other on the NE side, between 4 and 5 Mile Rd. If you can provide a ride, please contact Karen at the church, 363-7718.



THANK YOU PASTOR GRAVES for presiding over our worship service this morning.

We rejoice and are thankful for your dedication to our Lord by continuing to serve Him even in retirement.

God Bless!



## MESSAGE NOTES

### “THE JOY OF LAUGHTER”

#### PSALM 126:1-3

- I. JOY AND MERRIMENT RUN THROUGHOUT HISTORY!
  - A. Clowns and Medicine Men.
    - 1. Tribes/Kings Courts
- II. THE OLD TESTAMENT IS FILLED WITH JOY/LAUGHTER!
  - A. Prov. 17:22 – *“A cheerful heart is good medicine, but \_\_\_\_\_ spirit dries up the bones.”*
  - B. Abraham and Elijah.
  - C. Associated with salvation and deliverance.
    - 1. Job
    - 2. Proverbs 31:25 – *“She is clothed in strength and dignity; she can \_\_\_\_\_ at the days to come.”*
- III. IN THE NEW TESTAMENT JESUS KNEW THE IMPORTANCE OF JOY AND LAUGHTER
  - A. Birth of John the Baptist/Mary’s Reaction/Jesus Himself.
  - B. Paul – *“God loves a \_\_\_\_\_ giver” – II Cor. 9:7b.*
  - C. St. Peter.
- IV. \_\_\_\_\_ CHRISTMAS! \_\_\_\_\_ EASTER!

**CHRIST IS RISEN!!! REJOICE ALWAYS!!!**