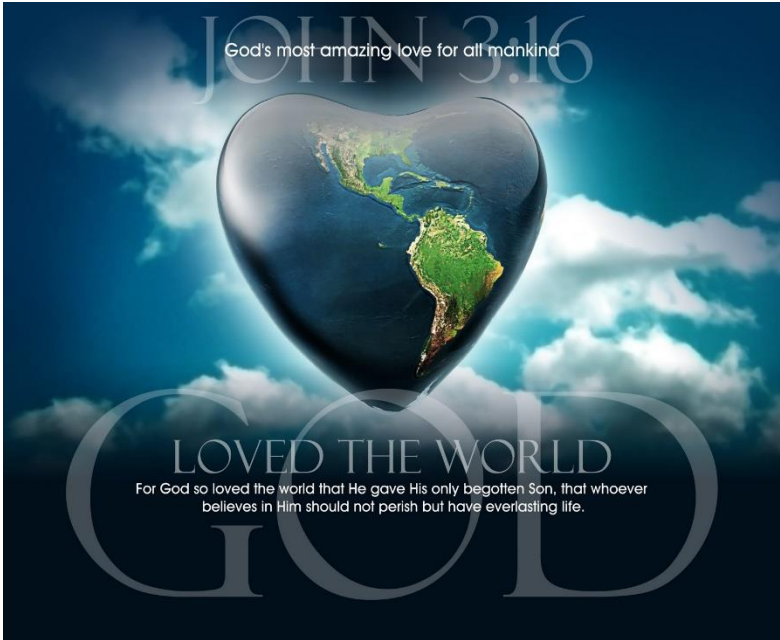


Grow ... Go ... Gather
March 14, 2021



ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH
(LCMS)

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



Pastor Glenn E. Schaeffer

glenn.schaeffer@stjamesgr.com

St. James Church Office: 363-7718

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Website: www.stjamesgr.com

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

The Order of Service

Pre-service Music, Call to Worship, and Welcome

(Please turn off your wifa and wear your mask when singing)

The Opening Hymn: LSB 542, "When I Behold Jesus Christ"



1 When I be - hold Je - sus Christ, True God who died for me,
2 For me You gave all Your love, For me You suf-ered pain;
3 You had no sin, ho - ly Lord, But You were tor-tured, tried;
4 What love is this? Great - er love No one has ev - er known.



I won-der much at His love As He hung on the tree.
I find no words, noth - ing can Your self - less - ness ex - plain.
On Gol - go - tha there for all My sins You bled and died.
My life with God— this I owe To You, and You a - lone.



What kind of love is this? What kind of love is this?



You showed Your love, Je - sus, there To me on Cal - va - ry.



What kind of love is this? What kind of love is this?



You showed Your love, Je - sus, there To me on Cal - va - ry.

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The Opening Lenten Versicles

P This is the day which the Lord has made;

C let us rejoice and be glad in it.

P From the rising of the sun to its setting,

C the name of the Lord is to be praised.

P Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful,

C slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and repents of evil.

P Jesus said: If any man would come after Me,

C let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.

P Christ was wounded for our transgressions.

C He was bruised for our iniquities.

P From the rising of the sun to its setting,

C the name of the Lord is to be praised.

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 of the Day: Psalm 107:1-9

P: Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!

C: Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom he has redeemed from trouble

P: And gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

C: Some wandered in desert wastes, finding no way to a city to dwell in;

P: Hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted within them.

C: Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress.

P: He led them by a straight way till they reached a city to dwell in.

The Old Testament Lesson: *Numbers 21:4–9*

P A reading from Numbers, the twenty-first chapter.

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. And the people became impatient on the way. And the people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food." Then the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. And the people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD and against you. Pray to the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live." So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

The Epistle Lesson: *Ephesians 2:1–10*

P A reading from Ephesians, the second chapter.

And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

G **Thanks be to God.**

A Hymn: “For God So Loved the World” (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 **(2 Xs)**

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 4

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

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The Gospel Lesson: *John 3:14–21*

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

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

[Jesus said:] “As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their deeds were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should

be exposed. But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his deeds have been carried out in God.”

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

The Lenten Responsoy *LSB 263*

- P** We have an advocate with the Father:
Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.
- C** **He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.**
- P** Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.
- C** **He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.**
- P** We have an advocate with the Father;
Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.
- C** **He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.**

The Catechism: The Ten Commandments

- C** **You shall have no other gods.**
You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.
Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.
Honor your father and your mother.
You shall not murder.
You shall not commit adultery.
You shall not steal.
You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.
You shall not covet your neighbor’s house.

You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

A Hymn: LSB 571 "God Loved the World So that He Gave"



1 God loved the world so that He gave His on - ly
 2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, Who was made
 3 God would not have the sin - ner die; His Son with
 4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son For - gives all



Son the lost to save, That all who would in
 flesh and suf - fered death; All then who trust in
 sav - ing grace is nigh; His Spir - it in the
 sins which you have done; And, jus - ti - fied by



Him be - lieve Should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.
 Him a - lone Are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.
 Word de - clares How we in Christ are heav - en's heirs.
 Je - sus' blood, Your Bap - tism grants the high - est good.

5 If you are sick, if death is near,
 This truth your troubled heart can cheer:
 Christ Jesus saves your soul from death;
 That is the firmest ground of faith.

△ 6 Glory to God the Father, Son,
 And Holy Spirit, Three in One!
 To You, O blessed Trinity,
 Be praise now and eternally!

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The Sermon

A Hymn: LSB 430 "My Song is Love Unknown"



1 My song is love un - known, My Sav - ior's love to
 2 He came from His blest throne Sal - va - tion to be -
 3 Some - times they strew His way And His sweet prais - es
 4 Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and



me, Love to the love - less shown That they might love - ly
 stow; But men made strange, and none The longed - for Christ would
 sing; Re - sound - ing all the day Ho - san - nas to their
 spite? He made the lame to run, He gave the blind their



be. Oh, who am I That for my sake
 know. But, oh, my friend, My friend in - deed,
 King. Then "Cru - ci - fy!" Is all their breath,
 sight. Sweet in - ju - ries! Yet they at these



My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?
 Who at my need His life did spend!
 And for His death They thirst and cry.
 Them - selves dis - please And 'gainst Him rise.

5 They rise and needs will have
 My dear Lord made away;
 A murderer they save,
 The Prince of Life they slay.
 Yet cheerful He
 To suff'ring goes
 That He His foes
 From thence might free.

6 In life no house, no home
 My Lord on earth might have;
 In death no friendly tomb
 But what a stranger gave.
 What may I say?
 Heav'n was His home

But mine the tomb
Wherein He lay.

- 7 Here might I stay and sing,
No story so divine!
Never was love, dear King,
Never was grief like Thine.
This is my friend,
In whose sweet praise
I all my days
Could gladly spend!

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The Offering Prayer

The General Prayer

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.**

A Hymn: "Wonderful, Merciful, Savior" (Selah)

Verse 1

Wonderful merciful Savior
Precious Redeemer and Friend
Who would have thought that a Lamb
Could rescue the souls of men
Oh You rescue the souls of men

Verse 2

Counselor Comforter Keeper
Spirit we long to embrace
You offer hope when our hearts
Have hopelessly lost the way
Oh we hopelessly lost the way

Chorus

***You are the One that we praise
You are the One we adore
You give the healing and grace
Our hearts always hunger for
Oh our hearts always hunger for***

Verse 3

Almighty infinite Father
Faithfully loving Your own
Here in our weakness You find us
Falling before Your throne
Oh we're falling before Your throne **(Chorus 2xs)**

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The Collect for the Word

P Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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.

The Blessing *LSB 267*

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

P The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us.

C Amen.

A Closing Hymn: *LSB 837*, "Lift High the Cross"

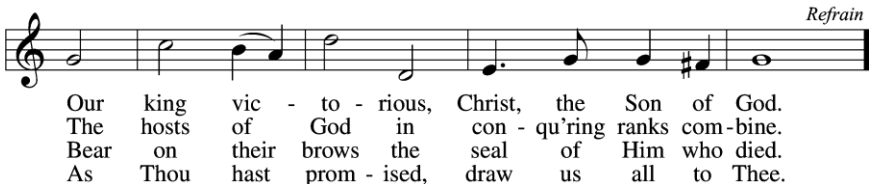
Refrain



Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro-claim Till
all the world a-dore His sa-cred name.

1 Come, Chris-tians, fol-low where our Cap-tain trod,
2 Led on their way by this tri-um-phant sign,
3 All new-born sol-diers of the Cru-ci-fied
4 O Lord, once lift-ed on the glo-rious tree,

Refrain



Our king vic-to-rious, Christ, the Son of God.
The hosts of God in con-quer-ing ranks com-bine.
Bear on their brows the seal of Him who died.
As Thou hast prom-ised, draw us all to Thee.

- 5 Let ev'ry race and ev'ry language tell
Of Him who saves our lives from death and
hell. Refrain
- 6 So shall our song of triumph ever be:
Praise to the Crucified for victory! Refrain

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Worshippers will be ushered out. Please wait for the usher to come to your pew. If you leave by the front entrance, please use the middle aisle. If you 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. Please put your kneeler down before exiting the pew.

Events of the Week: March 14 – March 21

- TODAY:** 11:00 a.m. Bible study on Facebook
11:00 a.m. Friends in Faith Meeting
- Monday:** 10:00 a.m. Registration for March 21
Worship begins
6:30 p.m. Monday Evening Worship Service
with Holy Communion
- Tuesday:** 6:00 p.m. ISJ Board Meeting at church
- Wed:** 10:00 a.m. Darrell Pfannkuch resumes
Bible Study in the church
Noon: Devotional Boost with Pastor
7:00 p.m. Lenten Worship
- Thursday:** 6:00 p.m. Bell Choir
7:15 p.m. ADULT CHOIR
- 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 Facebook



Friends in Faith are meeting **TODAY** after worship.

Today's Deacons: Jerry Talen
Ushers: Walt & Karen Kryzanowski

Those who serve March 17:
Deacon: Craig Popma



Those who serve March 21:
Deacons: Bryan Ensing and Craig Popma
Ushers: Nate, Kim, Hayden and Heath Urbanski

March Altar Guild: Carol Bifulco and Kim Urbanski

FINANCIAL DISCIPLESHIP March 7, 2021

General Fund	\$7,786.00
Future Building Expansion	165.00
Roof Repair Fund	20.00
ISJ Academy	300.00
<u>Tessaro Ministry Nigeria</u>	<u>100.00</u>
Total:	\$8,371.00

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

Valuing Life: The LCMS is providing a virtual conference that will help us build a team for new Life Ministry challenges. Individuals and congregations can be a part of the LCMS's effort to gather a cohort of highly informed, dedicated team members who speak for the sanctity of human life and care for our neighbors. The conference is Friday and Saturday **March 19-20**. A "Basic Pass" costs \$20.00. For more information, visit <https://www.lcms-life.org/>.

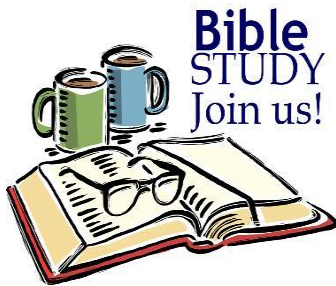


Lutherans for Life of Michigan is having a Life Leadership Summit at St. Paul

Lutheran Church in Fowler (near Lansing) on **Sunday, April 25th** from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. The keynote speaker will be Rev. Jeffrey Duncan, Director of Mission and Ministry for Lutherans for Life. If you want to attend this summit, please speak to Pastor Schaeffer before Easter Sunday as he plans to attend it and we should provide a head count to the organizers of who will be attending.

40 Days for Life Continues ... And You Can Be Involved!

There are still many opportunities for you to pray in front of the Grand Rapids abortion clinic. You can sign up for a prayer time by visiting the [40 Days for Life website](#). The Prayer vigil runs until **March 28th**. Let Pastor Schaeffer know if you need a prayer resource that contains written prayers and prayer suggestions.



**Bible
STUDY**
Join us!

It's Elementary My Dear ...!

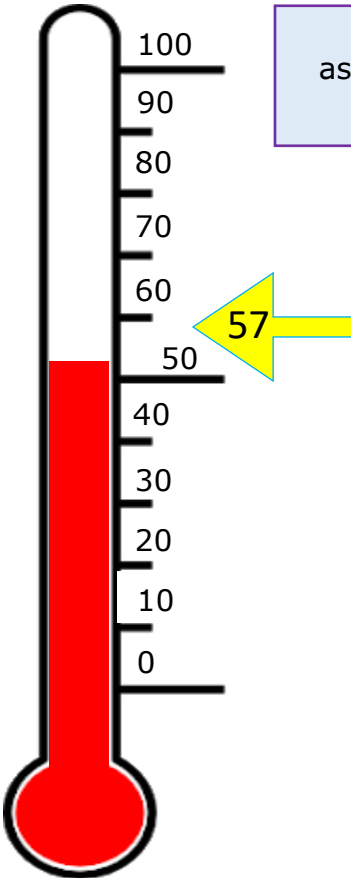
TODAY Pastor Schaeffer's new Sunday morning Bible study on the "*elementary*" teachings of the Christian faith begins. If you are new to the Christian faith, this course will serve as a great primer and for those who need a refresher in the "*elementary*" teachings you will find the course material refreshing. This study will be posted on St. James' Facebook page at **11:00 a.m.**

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 on how to assemble a kit is in your February and March newsletters.

Goal:
91

With your
help, we
will reach
our goal!



ST. JAMES NOW HAS ON-LINE GIVING!

Your concern on how to get your offerings to church has now been made simpler. St. James has connected with Church Extension Fund and Kindrid to offer an on-line giving option. You will find it on our website, **stjamesgr.com** or go directly to stjamesgr.com/give.

We offer credit/debit and ACH payments at this time. You have the option of making this a reoccurring donation and also generously accepting the small transaction fee to maximize your giving power.

We are test driving this feature with all donations going to the General Fund. Expansion in options will follow.



Church Extension Fund





Holy Week

Register for
Maundy Thursday,
Good Friday and **EASTER!**

*It is **very important** to **sign up early** so we can adequately prepare for Holy Communion and assess the need for a 2nd Easter service. The deadline for Holy Week registration is **March 27th.***



**Sign up
today!**

Life Quote for Sunday, March 14:

“Christ does not refuse our sense of tragedy or awareness of pain. He bears it in love, affirming our condition, carrying our sorrows to the end, all the way to the heart of God.”

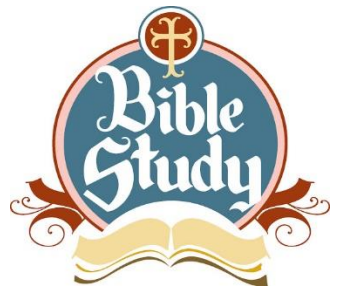
Jill Carattini



ADULT CHOIR will be meeting March 18, 25 and after worship Maundy Thursday, April 1st. If you would like to join the Adult Choir, Thursdays at 7:15pm, contact Beth McKay at 363-0759.

Bell Choir meets Thursdays at 6:00pm.

DARRELL PFANNKUCH is resuming his Bible study this week. Join Darrell as the discussion of the book, "How Does Anyone Know God Exists," is explored. This study will be meeting in the sanctuary at 10:00 every Wednesday. Questions? Contact Darrell.



The **INSTALLATION** of Pastor Zachary Marklevitz at Grace Lutheran Church (150 50th St. SW, Wyoming) will be held on **Sunday, March 21st, at 4:00 p.m.** All are welcome to attend. The deadline for the dinner R.S.V.P. was March 13, but if interested, you can try calling Grace Lutheran at 534-0805.