

Grow ... Go ... Gather
September 12, 2021

“Teammates on God’s Team”



**God’s Fellow
Workers**

*Glorify Him
Serve Others
Build His Church*

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

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



Pastor Glenn E. Schaeffer

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website: www.stjamesgr.com

offerings to the Lord: stjamesgr.com/give

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

The Order of Service (DS 4)

(Please turn off your wifi)

Preservice Music, Call to Worship and Welcome

A Lay Reader Talk

The Opening Hymn: LSB 808, "O Sing to the Lord"



1 O sing to the Lord, O sing God a new song. O sing to the
2 For God is the Lord! And God has done won-ders. For God is the
3 So dance for our God And blow all the trum-pets. So dance for our
4 O shout to our God, Who gave us the Spir-it. O shout to our
5 For Je-sus is Lord! A-men! Al-le-lu-ia! For Je-sus is



Lord, O sing God a new song. O sing to the Lord, O
Lord! And God has done won-ders. For God is the Lord! And
God And blow all the trum-pets. So dance for our God And
God, Who gave us the Spir-it. O shout to our God, Who
Lord! A-men! Al-le-lu-ia! For Je-sus is Lord! A-



sing God a new song. O sing to our God, O sing to our God.
God has done won-ders. O sing to our God, O sing to our God.
blow all the trum-pets. And sing to our God, And sing to our God.
gave us the Spir-it. O sing to our God, O sing to our God.
men! Al-le-lu-ia! O sing to our God, O sing to our God.

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The Invocation, Confession and Absolution

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

C: Amen.

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: who made heaven and earth.

P: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O
Lord, who could stand?

**C: But with You there is forgiveness;
therefore You are feared.**

P: Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C: Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

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 Kyrie *LSB 204*



Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

The Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 204



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

The Salutation and Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, our support and defense in every need, continue to preserve Your Church in safety, govern her by Your goodness, and bless her with Your peace; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The Old Testament Lesson: *Isaiah 50:4–10*

⁴The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of those who are taught, that I may know how to sustain with a word him who is weary. Morning by morning he awakens; he awakens my ear to hear as those who are taught.

⁵The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious; I turned not backward. ⁶I gave my back to those who strike, and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard; I hid not my face from disgrace and spitting.

⁷But the Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame. ⁸He who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who is my adversary? Let him come near to me. ⁹Behold, the Lord GOD helps me; who will declare me guilty? Behold, all of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up. ¹⁰Who among you fears the LORD and obeys the voice of his servant? Let him who walks in darkness and has no light trust in the name of the LORD and rely on his God.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Epistle Lesson: *James 3:1–12*

¹Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. ²For we all stumble in many ways, and if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body. ³If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well. ⁴Look at the ships also: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. ⁵So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things.

How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! ⁶And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The

tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell. ⁷For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, ⁸but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. ¹⁰From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so. ¹¹Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and salt water? ¹²Can a fig tree, my brothers, bear olives, or a grapevine produce figs? Neither can a salt pond yield fresh water.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

The Alleluia and Verse



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The Gospel Lesson: *Mark 9:14-29*

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

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

¹⁴When they came to the disciples, they saw a great crowd around them, and scribes arguing with them. ¹⁵And immediately all the crowd, when they saw him, were greatly amazed and ran up to [Jesus] and greeted him. ¹⁶And he asked them, "What are you arguing about with them?" ¹⁷And someone from the crowd answered him, "Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a spirit that makes him mute. ¹⁸And whenever it seizes him, it throws him down, and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid. So I asked your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able." ¹⁹And he answered them, "O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me." ²⁰And they brought the boy to him. And when the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. ²¹And Jesus asked his father, "How long has this been happening to him?" And he said, "From childhood. ²²And it has often cast him into fire and into water, to destroy him. But if you can do anything, have compassion on us and help us." ²³And Jesus said to him, "If you can! All things are possible for one who believes." ²⁴Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; help my unbelief!" ²⁵And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You mute and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him and never enter him again." ²⁶And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse, so that most of them said, "He is dead." ²⁷But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. ²⁸And when he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" ²⁹And he said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

The Confession of Faith: Martin Luther's Small Catechism, The Lord's Prayer

P: What is the Introduction to the Lord's Prayer?

C: Our Father who art in heaven.

P: What does this mean?

C: With these words God tenderly invites us to believe that He is our true Father and that we are His true children, so that with all boldness and confidence we may ask Him as dear children ask their dear father.

P: What is the First Petition?

C: Hallowed be Thy name.

P: What does this mean?

C: God's name is certainly holy in itself, but we pray in this petition that it may be kept holy among us also.

P: How is God's name kept holy?

C: God's name is kept holy when the Word of God is taught in its truth and purity, and we, as the children of God, also lead holy lives according to it. Help us to do this, dear Father in heaven! But anyone who teaches or lives contrary to God's Word profanes the name of God among us. Protect us from this, heavenly Father!



The Sermon Hymn: LSB 782, "Gracious God, You Send Great Blessings"



1 Gra - cious God, You send great bless - ings
 2 By Your Word You formed cre - a - tion
 3 In His earth - ly life, our Sav - ior
 4 Heav'n - ly Fa - ther, may our car - ing

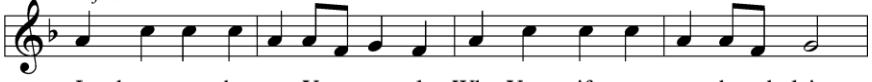


New each morn - ing all our days. For Your mer - cies
 Filled with crea - tures large and small; As we tend that
 Knew the care of faith - ful friends; May our deeds of
 Bear the im - print of Your grace; With the Son and



nev - er end - ing, For Your love we of - fer praise.
 end - less trea - sure May our care en - cir - cle all.
 ded - i - ca - tion Of - fer love that nev - er ends.
 Ho - ly Spir - it, Praise be Yours in ev - 'ry place!

Refrain



Lord, we pray that we, Your peo - ple Who Your gifts un - num - bered claim,



Through the shar - ing of Your bless - ings May bring glo - ry to Your name.

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The Sermon: 1 Corinthians 3:1–9

¹But I, brothers, could not address you as spiritual people, but as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. ²I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for it. And even now you are not yet ready, ³for you are still of the flesh. For while there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not of the flesh and behaving only in a human way? ⁴For when one says, "I follow Paul," and another, "I follow Apollos," are you not being merely human? ⁵What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, as the Lord assigned to

each. ⁶I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. ⁷So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. ⁸He who plants and he who waters are one, and each will receive his wages according to his labor. ⁹For we are God's fellow workers. You are God's field, God's building.

The Offering

The Prayer 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.**

A Hymn: "Jesus, Messiah" (Tomlin)

Verse 1

He became sin who knew no sin
That we might become His righteousness
He humbled Himself and carried the cross
Love so amazing love so amazing

Chorus

**Jesus Messiah Name above all names
Blessed Redeemer Emmanuel
The Rescue for sinners
The Ransom from heaven
Jesus Messiah Lord of all**

Verse 2

His body the bread His blood the wine
Broken and poured out all for love
The whole earth trembled and the veil was torn
Love so amazing love so amazing **(Chorus)**

Bridge

All our hope is in You
All our hope is in You
All the glory to You God
The Light of the world **(Chorus)**

CCLI Song # 5183443 Chris Tomlin | Daniel Carson | Ed Cash | Jesse Reeves
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Announcements and Blessing for Online Worshippers

✠ **The Service of the Sacrament** ✠

The Preface *LSB 208*

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give Him thanks and
praise.**

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that
we.... evermore praising You and singing:

The Sanctus *LSB 208*



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

The Words of Institution

The Pax Domini

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

The Agnus Dei *LSB 210*



C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;



O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,

Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

The Distribution:

During the Distribution, you are invited to sing:

LSB 630, "Now, My Tongue, the Mystery Telling"

LSB 809, "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

Now, My Tongue, the Mystery Telling

1 Now, my tongue, the mys - t'ry tell - ing Of the glo - rious
2 Giv'n for us, and con - de - scend - ing To be born for
3 That last night at sup - per ly - ing Mid the Twelve, His
4 Word made flesh, the bread He tak - eth, By His word His
△ 5 Glo - ry let us give and bless - ing To the Fa - ther

bod - y sing, And the blood, all price ex - cel - ling,
us be - low, He with us in con - verse blend - ing
cho - sen band, Je - sus, with the Law com - ply - ing,
flesh to be; Wine His sa - cred blood He mak - eth,
and the Son, Hon - or, thanks, and praise ad - dress - ing,

Which the Gen - tiles' Lord and King, Once on earth a -
Dwelt, the seed of truth to sow, Till He closed with
Keeps the feast its rites de - mand; Then, more pre - cious
Though the sens - es fail to see; Faith a - lone the
While e - ter - nal a - ges run; Ev - er too His

mong us dwell - ing, Shed for this world's ran - som - ing.
won - drous end - ing His most pa - tient life of woe.
food sup - ply - ing, Gives Him - self with His own hand.
true heart wak - eth To be - hold the mys - ter - y.
love con - fess - ing Who from both with both is One.

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Great Is Thy Faithfulness



1 Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;
 2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest,
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,



There is no shad - ow of turn - ing with Thee.
 Sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove
 Thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide;



Thou chang - est not: Thy com - pas - sions, they fail not;
 Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
 Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,



As Thou hast been, Thou for - ev - er wilt be.
 To Thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
 Bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!



Refrain
 Great is Thy faith - ful - ness! Great is Thy faith - ful - ness!



Morn - ing by morn - ing new mer - cies I see;

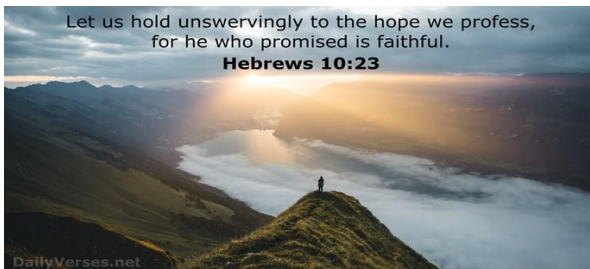


All I have need - ed Thy hand hath pro - vid - ed;



Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me!

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The Nunc Dimittis *LSB 211*

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

The Post-Communion Prayer

The Benedicamus and Benediction *LSB 212*

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and
be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and
✠ give you peace.

C: Amen.

The Closing Hymn: "In Christ Alone" (Getty)

Verse 1

In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light my strength my song
This Cornerstone this solid Ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love what depths of peace
When fears are stilled when strivings cease
My Comforter my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand

Verse 2

In Christ alone who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
Till on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live

Verse 3

There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

Verse 4

No guilt in life no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Events of the Week: September 12-19

- TODAY:** 11:00 a.m. FIF Church Picnic
Noon: Pastor's in-person Bible Study
"God's Fellow Workers Are in Ministry" (later posted on FB)
6:30 p.m. LWML Meeting
- Monday:** 6:30 p.m. Monday Evening Worship Service w/ Holy Communion
7:30 p.m. Council Meeting
- Wed:** Noon: Devotional Boost w/ Pastor on Facebook
10:00 a.m. Bible Study w/ Darrell at church
- Friday:** Pastor's Day off
- Sunday:** 8:00 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 in-person (& FB)

Those who serve Today:

Deacons: John Weiss and Bryan Ensing

Ushers: Jim & Nancy Spears, Ben & Ashley Johnson

Lector: Rick Schantz

Those who serve September 19:

Deacons: John Weiss and Bryan Ensing

Ushers: Nate, Kim, Hayden and Heath Urbanski

Lector: Cindy McAuliffe

September Altar Guild: Melissa E. and Marjie W.

<p>Holy Communion Sundays will be observed on September 12 and September 19.</p>

Karen is out of the office Monday – Thursday.

FINANCIAL DISCIPLESHIP: September 5, 2021	
General Fund	\$3,630.00
Future Building Expansion	125.00
Plate Collections	977.00
ISJ Academy	225.00
Tessaro Ministry Nigeria	25.00
	<hr/>
	Total: \$4,982.00
On-line giving	502.50
	<hr/>
	Total: \$5,484.50

LWML Fall Rally: Christ Lives in Me



Sandra Schaeffer will be the guest speaker for the LWML Grand Rapids Zone Fall Rally on October 2, 2021. Her presentation, "**Christ Lives in Me**" was written as a keynote address for the 2021 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Canada convention which was presented virtually in

July. In the address, Sandra focuses attention on the key verse: **Galatians 2:20, "I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God who loved me and gave himself for me."**

The Rally will be held at St. John's Lutheran Church in Allendale, on **Saturday, October 2nd**, from 9-12. The day will begin with a light breakfast, registration, and greeting one another time. The hour long presentation will begin at 10 and will be followed by a short Zone business meeting. A registration fee of \$10.00 will be collected at the event. Participants are invited to contribute baby bath items for an ingathering for the Grand Rapids Pregnancy Resource Center including baby towels, washcloths, soap, lotion, and socks! **Please, sign up by September 26th.**



The **LWML Banner Workshop** on **Sunday, October 3rd**, **sign-up sheet** is outside the office door. The event begins at 4:00 p.m. Pizza and pop provided. Questions? Contact Marjie.



The **LWML "Knit/Crochet in Love"** is Sunday, **September 19th, 10:45-1:00pm**, in the classroom. ****Bring a sack lunch.****

September 19- Youth Kick- Off Celebration

Grades 5 - High School

3-5 pm at Church

Please Bring a Snack to Share

Friends Are Welcome to Attend!

Questions? Contact Kelsey Butler at

kbutler@mychristianschool.com.



Lutheran's for Life Diaper Drive! We are collecting diapers now **through October 10th**. The collection box is in the main entryway of the church. All diapers and

infant supplies will go to the Grand Rapids Pregnancy Resource Center. (Diaper sizes newborn, 1, 3 and 6 are needed the most.)

ISJ Academy is looking for substitute teachers for the 2021-22 school year. Don't be scared! The class sizes are small, the students are well behaved, and the teachers leave easy to follow lesson plans! It is a lot of fun spending the day at ISJ. Please contact Jason Alexander at 363-0505 for more information.

Sisters in Christ, in 1 Thessalonians 5:11, the

Apostle Paul urged the early church to "encourage one another and build each other up!" The LWML invites you to join us for **Bible Study, a short meeting,**

and fellowship! Our first meeting of the year is **this evening at 6:00 pm**. All women of the congregation are invited to join in person or via Zoom. Email sandra.schaeffer5@gmail.com if you would like to be added to our list of link recipients.



Fellow Workers on God's Team

This is the first week of our stewardship theme "*Fellow Workers on God's Team.*" Our theme for today is "God's Fellow Workers Are Servants in Ministry." God, who has created all things and sustains all things, has called us to be His instruments through which He shares His grace, love, and mercy with the world. It is amazing that, in spite of our sinful ways, God calls us to participate with Him on His team in sharing the good news of the Gospel. God "*desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth*" (1 Timothy 2:4), and He blesses us with the honor and privilege to be on His team to help others enjoy His kingdom now on earth and to be with Him forever in eternity. Reserve **October 3rd** in your calendar! It's Championship Sunday!

