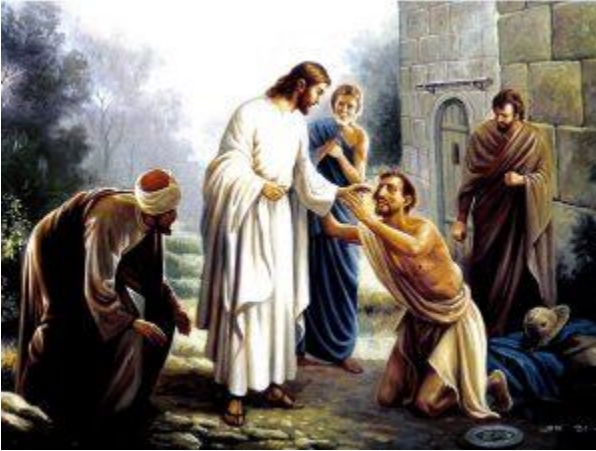


Grow ... Go ... Gather
September 5, 2021



**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

e-mail: office@stjamesgr.com

website: www.stjamesgr.com

offerings to the Lord: stjamesgr.com/give

The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

The Order of Service (Responsive Prayer #2, pp. 285ff.)

(Please turn off your wifi)

Preservice Music, Call to Worship and Welcome

(Please stand)

The Opening Hymn: LSB 816, "From All That Dwell Below the Skies"



1 From all that dwell be - low the skies Let the Cre - a - tor's
2 E - ter - nal are Thy mer - cies, Lord; E - ter - nal truth at -
△ 3 All praise to God the Fa - ther be, All praise, e - ter - nal



praise a - rise; Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
tends Thy Word. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Son, to Thee. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



Let the Re - deem - er's name be sung Through ev - 'ry land by
Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore Till suns shall rise and
Whom with the Spir - it we a - dore For - ev - er and for -



ev - 'ry tongue. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
set no more. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
ev - er - more: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

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The Opening Versicles *LSB 285*

A: O Lord, open my lips,

C: and my mouth will declare Your praise.

A: Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

**C: make haste to help me, O Lord.
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.**

A Responsive Reading of the Psalm of the Day:
Psalm 146

A: Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

**C: I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will
sing praises to my God while I have my
being.**

A: Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in
whom there is no salvation.

**C: When his breath departs, he returns to the
earth; on that very day his plans perish.**

A: Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the LORD his God,

**C: Who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all
that is in them, who keeps faith forever;**

A: Who executes justice for the oppressed, who
gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets the
prisoners free;

**C: The LORD opens the eyes of the blind.
The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;
the LORD loves the righteous.**

A: The LORD watches over the sojourners; he upholds
the widow and the fatherless, but the way of the
wicked he brings to ruin.

**C: The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion,
to all generations. Praise the LORD!**

(Please be seated.)

A Hymn: LSB 801, "How Great Thou Art"



1 O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won - der Con - sid - er
 2 When through the woods and for - est glades I wan - der, I hear the
 3 But when I think that God, His Son not spar - ing, Sent Him to
 4 When Christ shall come with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion And take me



all the works Thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the might - y
 birds sing sweet - ly in the trees; When I look down from loft - y moun - tain
 die, I scarce can take it in— That on the cross my bur - den glad - ly
 home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum - ble ad - o -



thun - der, Thy pow'r through - out the u - ni - verse dis - played;
 gran - deur And hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze;
 bear - ing He bled and died to take a - way my sin;
 ra - tion And there pro - claim: "My God, how great Thou art!"

Refrain



Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to Thee, How great Thou



art! How great Thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to



Thee, How great Thou art! How great Thou art!

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The Old Testament Lesson: *Isaiah 35:4-7a*

⁴Say to those who have an anxious heart, "Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you." ⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; ⁶then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy. For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert;

⁷the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water.”

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Epistle Lesson: *James 2:1–10, 14–18*

¹My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. ²For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly, and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in, ³and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, “You sit here in a good place,” while you say to the poor man, “You stand over there,” or, “Sit down at my feet,” ⁴have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵Listen, my beloved brothers, has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom, which he has promised to those who love him? ⁶But you have dishonored the poor man. Are not the rich the ones who oppress you, and the ones who drag you into court? ⁷Are they not the ones who blaspheme the honorable name by which you were called?

⁸If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself,” you are doing well. ⁹But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. ¹⁰For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. . . .

¹⁴What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? ¹⁵If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, ¹⁶and one of you

says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled," without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? ¹⁷So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

¹⁸But someone will say, "You have faith and I have works." Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please rise out of respect for Christ Jesus to hear the Gospel.)

The Gospel Lesson: *Mark 7:31–37*

³¹[Jesus] returned from the region of Tyre and went through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³²And they brought to him a man who was deaf and had a speech impediment, and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³And taking him aside from the crowd privately, he put his fingers into his ears, and after spitting touched his tongue. ³⁴And looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." ³⁵And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶And Jesus charged them to tell no one. But the more he charged them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, "He has done all things well. He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please be seated.)

The Sermon Hymn: LSB 537, "Beautiful Savior"



1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion, Son of
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, Fair are the wood - lands, Robed in
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, Fair is the moon - light, Bright the
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions, Son of



God and Son of Man! Tru - ly I'd love Thee, Tru - ly I'd
 flow'rs of bloom - ing spring; Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is
 spar - kling stars on high; Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines
 God and Son of Man! Glo - ry and hon - or, Praise, ad - o -



serve Thee, Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
 pur - er, He makes our sor - r'wing spir - it sing.
 pur - er Than all the an - gels in the sky.
 ra - tion Now and for - ev - er - more be Thine!

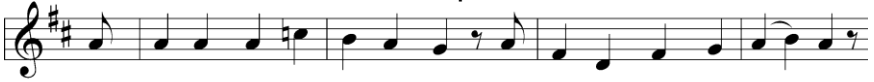
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The Sermon

The Offering

(Please rise.)

The Confession of our Christian Faith: LSB 601, "All Who Believe and Are Baptized"



1 All who be - lieve and are bap - tized Shall see the Lord's sal - va - tion;
 2 With one ac - cord, O God, we pray: Grant us Your Ho - ly Spir - it.



Bap - tized in - to the death of Christ, They are a new cre - a - tion.
 Help us in our in - fir - mi - ty Through Je - sus' blood and mer - it.



Through Christ's re - demp - tion they shall stand A - mong the glo - rious,
 Grant us to grow in grace each day That by this sac - ra -



heav'n - ly band Of ev - 'ry tribe and na - tion.
 ment we may E - ter - nal life in - her - it.

Text and tune: Public domain

The Versicles

LSB 286-287

A: Hear my prayer, O Lord;

C: let my cry come to You.

A: In the day of my trouble I call upon You,

C: for You answer me.

A: Hide Your face from my sins,

C: and blot out all my iniquities.

A: Create in me a clean heart, O God,

C: and renew a right spirit within me.

A: Cast me not away from Your presence,

C: and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.

A: Restore to me the joy of Your salvation,

C: and uphold me with a willing spirit.

A: Because Your steadfast love is better than life,

C: my lips will praise You.

A: For You have been my help,

C: and in the shadow of Your wings I will sing for joy.

A: Teach me Your way, O Lord, that I may walk in Your truth;

C: unite my heart to fear Your name.

A: I give thanks to You, O Lord my God, with my whole heart,

C: and I will glorify Your name forever.

A: May all who seek You rejoice and be glad in You.

C: May those who love Your salvation say evermore, "God is great!"

A: Save Your people and bless Your heritage!

C: Be their shepherd and carry them forever.

A: Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer;

C: listen to my plea for grace.

(Please be seated.)

A Hymn: AGPS #128 "I Love to Tell the Story"

Verse 1

I love to tell the story of unseen things above
Of Jesus and His glory of Jesus and His love
I love to tell the story because I know it's true;
It satisfies my longings as nothing else can do.

Chorus

**I love to tell the story 'Twill be my theme in glory
To tell the old, old story of Jesus and His love.**

Verse 2

I love to tell the story 'Tis pleasant to repeat What
seems, each time I tell it. More wonderfully sweet. I love
to tell the story. For some have never heard The
message of salvation From God's own holy Word.

(Chorus)

Verse 4

I love to tell the story Of how, from heav'n above Our
Lord and Savior Jesus Was sent to show God's love to
ev'ry sinful creature Upon this earthly place How Christ,
the gift from heaven, Is God's great gift of grace.

(Chorus)

Verse 8

I love to tell the story Although it's sad to tell.
Of how our Lord and Master Faced pain and death and
hell. Dear Jesus, whipped and bleeding Was hung upon
the tree And died on that Good Friday To save both you
and me. **(Chorus)**

Verse 9

I love to tell the story Of how our Lord and friend.
Rose up on Easter morning And reigns in highest heav'n.
The love of God the Father, The Spirit, and the Son Has
given us salvation The free gift Jesus won. **(Chorus)**

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(Please rise.)

The General Prayer of the Church

The Lord's Prayer (on the hymnal back cover)

The Morning Prayer

☩ 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 Benedicamus and Blessing

LSB 287

A: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

A: The Lord bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life. **C: Amen.**

A Closing Hymn: LSB 791, "All People That on Earth Do Dwell"



1 All peo - ple that on earth do dwell, Sing to the
2 Know that the Lord is God in - deed; With - out our
3 O en - ter then His gates with praise; Ap - proach with
4 For why? The Lord our God is good: His mer - cy
△ 5 To Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, The God whom



Lord with cheer - ful voice. Him serve with mirth, His
aid He did us make. We are His folk, He
joy His courts un - to. Praise, laud, and bless His
is for - ev - er sure. His truth at all times
heav'n and earth a - dore, From us and from the



praise forth - tell; Come ye be - fore Him and re - joice.
doth us feed, And for His sheep He doth us take.
name al - ways, For it is seem - ly so to do.
firm - ly stood And shall from age to age en - dure.
an - gel host Be praise and glo - ry ev - er - more.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Events of the Week: September 5 - 12

- TODAY:** **11:00 a.m.** Bible study on Facebook
 11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour
 ****No Monday Evening Worship****
- Wed:** **Noon:** Devotional Boost w/ Pastor on Facebook
 10:00 a.m. Bible Study w/ Darrell
- Friday:** Pastor's Day off
 PRC Golf Outing
- Saturday:** **8:30 a.m. Men's Bible Breakfast**
 Noon-4:00 p.m. Creston After Dark
- 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 on Facebook

NOTE: Pastor Schaeffer and Sandra will be on vacation through September 8th, returning to the office on the 9th. If you are in need of pastoral care, please contact our Deacons.

John Weiss 773-0805
Bryan Ensing 589-6925

Those who serve Today:

Deacon: Jerry Talen

Ushers: Walt & Karen Kryzanowski, Orlin Bowman

Lector: Carol Bifulco

Those who serve September 12: (communion)

Deacons: John Weiss and Bryan Ensing

Ushers: Jim & Nancy Spears, Ben & Ashley Johnson

Lector: Rick Schantz

September Altar Guild: Melissa Ensing and Marjie Weiss

FINANCIAL DISCIPLESHIP: August 29, 2021

General Fund	\$1,601.00
Plate Collections	330.00
<hr/>	
	Total: \$1,931.00
On-line giving	60.30
<hr/>	
	Total: \$1,991.30

Fellow Workers on God's Team

Our stewardship theme for this year is **Fellow Workers on God's Team**, beginning on **September 12**. In his letter to the Corinthians, Paul wrote, "*We are God's fellow workers*" (1 Corinthians 3:9). God calls us to participate on His team to fulfill His mission "*of seeking and saving the lost*" (Luke 19:10). While He could use His angels to bring people to faith, God honors us with the privilege to share the Gospel with our families, friends, neighbors, co-workers, and all people. God guides, equips, and provides us with all that we need so we can be effective in what He asks of us. The weekly themes are as follows:

- September 12: "God's Fellow Workers Are Servants in Ministry" (In-person starts at 12 noon)
- September 19: "Your Role on God's Team" (In-person starts following the service)
- September 26: "The Importance and Purpose of Ministry" (In-person starts following the Voter's meeting)
- October 3: "Championship Sunday!" – Working Wholeheartedly for the Lord" – On this Sunday you will have the opportunity to place your financial pledge to the Lord's work on the altar. The Bible study will follow the service.

The **LWML** invites you to their first meeting of the year on **Sunday, September 12th 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.