



St. James Lutheran Church
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Pastor: Rev. Dr. Glenn E. Schaeffer
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Hymn: 818 "In Thee Is Gladness"

Salutation and Collect of the Day

The Old Testament

Isaiah 55:10-13

¹⁰For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, ¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it. ¹²For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

¹³Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall make a name for the LORD, an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

The Epistle Reading

Romans 8:18-25

¹⁸For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. ²³And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia

LSB 190

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.

C **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

¹That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ²And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: "A sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, ⁶but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹He who has ears, let him hear. . . .
¹⁸"Hear then the parable of the sower: ¹⁹When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path. ²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, ²¹yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. ²²As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. ²³As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

Apostles' Creed

Hymn of the Day: 577 "Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast"

Sermon

Offertory

LSB 192

Offering (Please sign the burgundy Friendship booklet and pass it to other people sitting in your pew. When completed, pass it back to the center aisle and be sure to greet the people next to you! Those sitting by the center aisle: please tear off the completed sheet and place it on the pew. Thank you!)

Prayer of the Church & The Lord's Prayer

Hymn: 578 “Thy Strong Word”

Announcements & Blessing for Online Worshippers

Service of the Sacrament

LSB 194

Distribution Hymn: 580 “The Gospel Shows the Father’s Grace”

Hymn to Depart: 921 “On What Has Now Been Sown”

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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This Week at St. James

Today (7/16)	Gizmo on FB – 8:00 AM Worship – 9:30 AM Bible Study – 11:00 AM
Monday (7/17)	Evening Service – 6:30 PM
Friday (7/21)	Pastors Day Off – 9:00 AM
Sunday (7/23)	Gizmo on FB – 8:00 AM Worship – 9:30 AM Bible Study – 11:00 AM

Looking Ahead

Serving Today (7/16)

Officiant	Rev. Dr. Glenn Schaeffer
Lector.....	Marjie Weiss
Organist.....	Beth McKay
Deacon(s)	Craig Popma / Bryan Ensing
Ushers.....	Dale and Grace Rosema / Derren Kippen
Video/Sound/Recording.....	Nathan Urbanski/John & Marjie Weiss
July Altar Guild.....	Phyllis Schultz

Serving Next Sunday (7/23)

Lector.....	Cindy McAuliffe
Organist.....	Beth McKay
Deacon(s)	Dave Hood
Ushers.....	Craig Popma / Caleb Butler / Orlin Bowman
Video/Sound/Recording.....	Nathan Urbanski/John & Marjie Weiss
July Altar Guild.....	Phyllis Schultz

Financial Discipleship: July 9 & 8, 2023

General Fund	\$4,390.00
<i>Needed each week for budget \$5,769.00 (-\$1379.00)</i>	
ISJ Academy	\$50.00
TOTAL Contributions	\$4,440.00

Announcements

Study Jesus' Parables with Pastor Schaeffer! We start the study today and all are welcome. If you would still like to join on Zoom or see the recording please talk to pastor Schaeffer.

Lectors Sign Up Sheet The signup sheet is out in the lobby by the church office. Please sign up if you are willing to read as a lector in church.

Painters Needed: ISJ needs some of the classrooms painted. Please contact Dale Rosema if you are willing to help.

New Directory: Please look in your mailbox for the Directory.

Starting the Year ... On The Right Note!

I hope you have **marked your calendar for August 15th from 6-8 pm** to attend **St. James' Back to School Block Party!** Don't forget to **sign up** so we know you are coming!

Thank you for your enthusiasm for the event. Many have asked for what we need to make the event a success. We are looking for donations of school supplies. **Here are some suggestions:** crayons, markers, scissors, rulers, erasers, pencils, pens, highlighters, water color paints, dry erase markers, white glue,

glue sticks, tape, sticky notes, paper, notebooks, journals, pencil cases, 1 inch binders or other items you find that kids would think are cool!!! We also encourage the purchase of **children's socks and backpacks.**



Thank you to the bakers who have signed up for baking cookies for the cookie walk! There is still room for some more bakers. Last year we gave away 65 dozen cookies! If you are planning on baking, sign up indicating how many dozen you will bring. Place 6 cookies on a paper plate and wrap securely.

ice cream truck treats and the inflatable obstacle course that would be a welcomed way to support our event!

Finally, if you would like to **make a donation** to help cover the cost of the

“Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.” Psalm 96:1

A Statement on Holy Communion

We rejoice in the celebration of the LORD'S Supper as the Lord Jesus comes to us in a very personal manner, giving to us His true Body and Blood in, with, and under the bread and wine in this sacred meal. St. Paul writes, "*A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself.*" (1 Corinthians 11:28-29) It is out of love and care for every individual that comes to the Lord's Supper that we ask those who are not instructed in the faith and/or doubt the presence of the Body and Blood of Jesus in this Sacrament to refrain from attending the Lord's Supper.

Members of Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod congregations, who:

- Repent of their sin;
- Believe in Jesus as their Savior;
- Trust that they are receiving, not only bread and wine, but also the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ in the Lord's Supper for the forgiveness of their sins; and
- Intend, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to live as forgiven sinners resisting the devil, saying no to sinful desires, and walking in the newness of life;

are invited to partake of this Holy Meal with us. We request that ALL guests who desire to commune, kindly speak to the Pastor before the service.

If you prefer to come forward for a blessing at the time of Holy Communion, please do so. We ask that you cross your arms over your chest so that Pastor knows you want to receive a blessing.

NOTE: We provide gluten-free communion host and non-alcohol grape juice. Just let Pastor and/or the assistants know when you come for Holy Communion.