



**St. James Lutheran Church**  
2040 Oakwood Ave NE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49505

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**Office:** 616-363-7718  
**Email:** [office@stjamesgr.com](mailto:office@stjamesgr.com)  
**Website:** [www.stjamesgr.com](http://www.stjamesgr.com)  
**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/stjamesgr](http://www.facebook.com/stjamesgr)  
**Online Giving:** [www.stjamesgr.com/give](http://www.stjamesgr.com/give).

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**Pastor:** Rev. Dr. Glenn E. Schaeffer  
[glenn.schaeffer@stjamesgr.com](mailto:glenn.schaeffer@stjamesgr.com)

The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost  
July 30, 2023

Responsive Prayer

The Preservice Music, Call to Worship & Welcome

Hymn: 822 "Alleluia! Let Praises Ring"

Opening Versicles

LSB 285

**L** O Lord, open my lips,

**C** and my mouth will declare Your praise.

**L** 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.

Collect of the Day

**L** Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, give us an increase of faith, hope, and love, that, receiving what You have promised, we may love what You have commanded; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

The Old Testament Reading

*Deuteronomy 7:6-9*

"You are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. <sup>7</sup>It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the LORD set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, <sup>8</sup>but it is because the LORD loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. <sup>9</sup>Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations."

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## The Epistle Reading

*Romans 8:28-39*

<sup>28</sup>We know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. <sup>29</sup>For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. <sup>30</sup>And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified. <sup>31</sup>What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? <sup>32</sup>He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? <sup>33</sup>Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. <sup>34</sup>Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died – more than that, who was raised – who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. <sup>35</sup>Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? <sup>36</sup>As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered." <sup>37</sup>No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup>For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, <sup>39</sup>nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Hymn:** 729 "I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus"

## The Holy Gospel

*Matthew 13:44-52*

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

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

<sup>44</sup>[Jesus said:] "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. <sup>45</sup>" Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, <sup>46</sup>who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it. <sup>47</sup>" Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. <sup>48</sup>When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into containers but threw away the

bad. <sup>49</sup>So it will be at the close of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous <sup>50</sup>and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

<sup>51</sup>"Have you understood all these things?" They said to him, "Yes." <sup>52</sup>And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house, who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

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

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

### 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.

Hymn: 752 "Be Still, My Soul"

### The Sermon

**The 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!)

## Kyrie

LSB 285

- L** O Lord,
- C** have mercy.
- L** O Christ,
- C** have mercy.
- L** O Lord,
- C** have mercy.

## The General Prayer of the Church & The Lord's Prayer

### Versicles

LSB 286

- L** Hear my prayer, O Lord;
- C** let my cry come to You.
- L** In the day of my trouble I call upon You,
- C** for You answer me.
- L** Hide Your face from my sins,
- C** and blot out all my iniquities.
- L** Create in me a clean heart, O God,
- C** and renew a right spirit within me.
- L** Cast me not away from Your presence,
- C** and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.
- L** Restore to me the joy of Your salvation,
- C** and uphold me with a willing spirit.
- L** Because Your steadfast love is better than life,
- C** my lips will praise You.
- L** For You have been my help,
- C** and in the shadow of Your wings I will sing for joy.
- L** Teach me Your way, O Lord, that I may walk in Your truth;
- C** unite my heart to fear Your name.
- L** I give thanks to You, O Lord my God, with my whole heart,
- C** and I will glorify Your name forever.
- L** May all who seek You rejoice and be glad in You.
- C** May those who love Your salvation say evermore, "God is great!"
- L** Save Your people and bless Your heritage!
- C** Be their shepherd and carry them forever.

**L** Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer;

**C** listen to my plea for grace.

**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.

**Benedicamus**

*LSB 287*

**L** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Blessing**

*LSB 287*

**L** The Lord bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

**C** Amen.

**Hymn: 738 “Lord of All Hopefulness”**

**Acknowledgments**

Responsive Prayer 2 from Lutheran Service Book

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## **This Week at St. James**

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| Today (7/30) .....  | <b>Worship – 9:30 AM</b><br>Bible Study – 11:00 AM                          |
| Monday (7/31) ..... | No Evening Service – 6:30 PM  |
| Friday (8/4) .....  | Pastors Day Off – 9:00 AM   |
| Sunday (8/6) .....  | Gizmo on FB – 8:00 AM<br><b>Worship – 9:30 AM</b><br>Bible Study – 11:00 AM |

## **Looking Ahead**

### **Serving Today (7/30)**

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Officiant ..... Deacons  
Lector ..... Irene Talen

Organist..... Beth McKay  
 Deacon(s) .....Bryan Ensing / Craig Popma  
 Ushers..... Jim and Nancy Spears / Jim McKay  
 Video/Sound/Recording ..... Nathan Urbanski/John & Marjie Weiss  
 July Altar Guild.....Phyllis Schultz

**Serving Next Sunday (8/6)**

Lector..... Cindy McAuliffe  
 Organist..... Beth McKay  
 Deacon(s) .....Dave Hood / Jerry Talen  
 Ushers.....Dale and Grace Rosema / Jim McKay  
 Video/Sound/Recording ..... Nathan Urbanski/John & Marjie Weiss  
 August Altar Guild.....Suellen Pfannkuch / Amanda Donigan

**Financial Discipleship: July 23 & 24, 2023**

|   |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| General Fund  | \$4,594.09        |
| <i>Needed each week for budget \$5,769.00 (-\$1,174.91)</i> |                   |
| ISJ Academy   | \$40.00           |
| Tessaro Ministry  | \$50.00           |
| <b>TOTAL Contributions</b>                                  | <b>\$4,684.09</b> |

**Announcements**

**Starting the Year ... On The Right Note!**



**St. James Lutheran Church Presents: A Back to School Block Party**

**Start the School Year ... on the Right Note**

Plan now to invite the children in your life to attend this event on Tuesday, August 15, 2023 from 6-8 p.m.! We have lots of fun activities planned. There will be Hot Dogs ... An Ice Cream Truck ... An Obstacle Course ... Games ... Crafts ... Music ... And A Cookie Walk!!!! Children will earn tickets they can spend in our Noteworthy Prize Shop! ISJ students will have the opportunity to meet new members of the school staff and community members will be able to learn more about our Lutheran School!

So join us as we ... "Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth." Psalm 96:1

## Good things to know:

- 1. We are still looking for volunteers!** Your participation will help to make the job easier on everyone! Knowing you are coming will help us plan, but if you cannot commit just yet, plan to show up on the day and join in the fun! Volunteer information letters will be given out as soon as we have a few more spots filled on our list. Volunteers can pick up their t-shirts at the church this week!
- 2. Our "Noteworthy Prize Shop" is looking for merchandise!** We are hoping for donations of school supplies including: markers, pencil crayons, highlighters, paints, pens, pencils, paper, notebooks, binders, dividers, pencil cases, erasers, tape, glue, sticky notes, paper clips, journals, pencil sharpeners, scissors, lunch kits, and socks. Immanuel will be collecting backpacks and water bottles for our use and we have plenty of rulers. **Please, plan to bring your donations to the church by August 6th.**
- 3.** If you have signed up to bring cookies, please, place them on paper plates in groups of six and wrap them with saran wrap or place them on a plate and put them in a Ziplock. **Cookies can be placed in the church freezer now or brought on August 15th.**
- 4. If you don't like to shop and you missed out on your opportunity to bake cookies ... you are welcome to make a donation** to help cover the cost of the ice cream treats and obstacle course! You can place donations on the offering plate ear marked for Back to School.
- 5. Finally, please, pray** for our school community and neighborhood children as they prepare to head back to school. **Pray for** our committee as we prepare. **Pray for** the volunteers to sign up. **Pray for** beautiful weather for our event! **Pray for** Pastor Schaeffer and the ISJ board as they lay the foundation for a great year ahead. **Pray for** the ISJ staff new and old as they prepare to welcome their students. And **thank God** for continuing to bless ISJ Academy!

**August Newsletter:** The newsletter will be sent by email next week and then paper copies will be available next Sunday.