

Saturday, May 2, 2026, 5:30pm
Sunday, May 3, 2026, 8:30 am

FIFTH WEEK OF EASTER



*Changing lives with the love of God
to the glory of God*

Welcome Guests!

We're glad you're with us today!

We hope you'll introduce yourself to the Pastor at the Church door after worship today.

Worship Schedule

Our regular worship times are:

Saturdays at 5:30 pm

Sundays at 8:30 am & 10:00 am

Sunday School at 10:00 am September-June

Serving in the Lord's house today:

5:30: Jim and Laretta Sauer / 8:30: Daisy Karika / 10:00: Sharon Haase

Altar flowers have been given- to the glory of God.

Pastor: Neil Mittelstaedt

Pastor: Conner Forbes

www.stjlc.com

631- 584-5212

Ministers: All the people of St. James

Prelude: Passacaglia on "Abbot's Leigh"

Austin C. Lovelace

Opening Hymn: Christ Is Our Cornerstone



C We confess that we are captive to the 'self-life' and cannot free ourselves.
 We have not given You the place in our hearts that You deserve,
 nor have we served one another as You command.
 We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed.
 For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.
 Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,
 so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways,
 to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin,
 died in our place, and made us alive together with the risen Christ.
 By grace you have been saved.
 In the name of † Jesus Christ I declare to you that your sins are forgiven.
 May God now strengthen you with power for new living through the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Hymn of Praise: This Is the Feast



C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



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



1 — Wor-ty is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
 5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*
 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*
 gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*

Final Refrain

This is the feast of vic-tory for our God.

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

Epistle Reading

1 Peter 2:2–10

A The Epistle is from 1 Peter, chapter 2.

²Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation— ³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, ⁵you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be **a holy priesthood**, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For it stands in Scripture:

“Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious,
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

⁷So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone,”

⁸and “A stone of stumbling,
and a rock of offense.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

⁹But you are a chosen race, **a royal priesthood**, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia and Verse

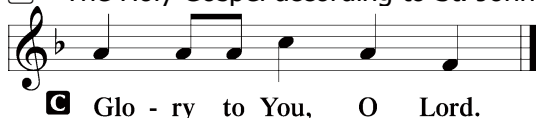


Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel Reading

John 14:1-14

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



G Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

¹[Jesus said:] "Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ²In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to where I am going." ⁵Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" ⁶Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

⁸Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us." ⁹Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

¹²"Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. ¹³Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



G Praise to You, O Christ.

Prayer of the Day

- L** Almighty and eternal God, we come now right into Your heavenly presence,
C **because You have made us acceptable to be here through Your Son.**
L In Him we come before Your divine majesty
C **as Your holy people,**
L Your royal priests.
C **Graciously receive our prayers!**
L And teach us to minister as the priests You have called us all to be,
C **praising You, singing, telling Your gospel, and sacrificing to provide care for others;**
L through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. He lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now
C **and forever. Amen.**

Hymn: Church of God, Elect and Glorious



1 Church of God, e - lect and glo - rious, Ho - ly
2 God has called you out of dark - ness In - to
4 Church of God, e - lect and ho - ly, Be - the



na - tion, cho - sen race; Called as God's own
His most mar - v'ulous light; Brought His truth to
peo - ple He in - tends; Strong in faith and



spe - cial peo - ple, Roy - al priests and heirs of
life with - in you, Turned your blind - ness in - to
swift to an - swer Each com - mand your Mas - ter



grace: Know the pur - pose of your call - ing,
sight: Let your light so shine a - round you
sends: Roy - al priests, ful - fill your call - ing



Show to all His might - y deeds; Tell of love that
That God's name is glo - ri - fied And all find fresh
Through your sac - ri - fice and prayer; Give your lives in



knows no lim - its, Grace that meets all hu - man needs.
hope and pur - pose In Christ Je - sus cru - ci - fied.
joy - ful ser - vice— Sing His praise, His love de - clare.

Sermon: Royal Priesthood

Nicene Creed

**☩ I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.
And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

Offering

Some time ago we stopped passing the offering plate. There is now a box in the Narthex in which you may place your offering. Even more helpful, you may give electronically either by using the QR code below or visiting stjlc.com/give. You may also give to God and the work of His Church by mailing your offering in.



Offering Prayer

- L** You have made us to be Your people, O God,
- C** **a holy priesthood offering spiritual sacrifices.**
- L** As a portion of our service, receive our offering;
- C** **we delight to give You thanks and praise;**
- L** through Jesus Christ our Lord
- C** **Amen.**

✠ Holy Communion ✠

To Our Guests Regarding Holy Communion:

Holy Communion is a gift Christ gives to His Church.

In it, He offers His true Body and Blood in and with the bread and wine.

It is the gift of Himself!

When received in faith, Holy Communion gives forgiveness, new life & salvation.

Those who receive the Lord's Supper at St. James Lutheran Church are baptized Christians, committed in their faith in Christ, who have been instructed in and believe these truths.

(We run classes both for young people and adults – everyone welcome.)

God bless you!

Preface



P The Lord be with you.



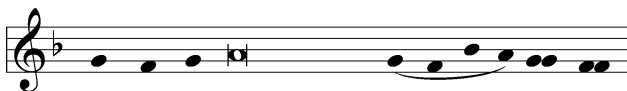
C And al - so with you.



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 indeed right and good, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give You thanks, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ our risen Lord.*

C **And now we give You thanks because through Him You have given us eternal life**

P *and delivered us from the bondage of sin and the fear of death into the glorious liberty of the children of God.*

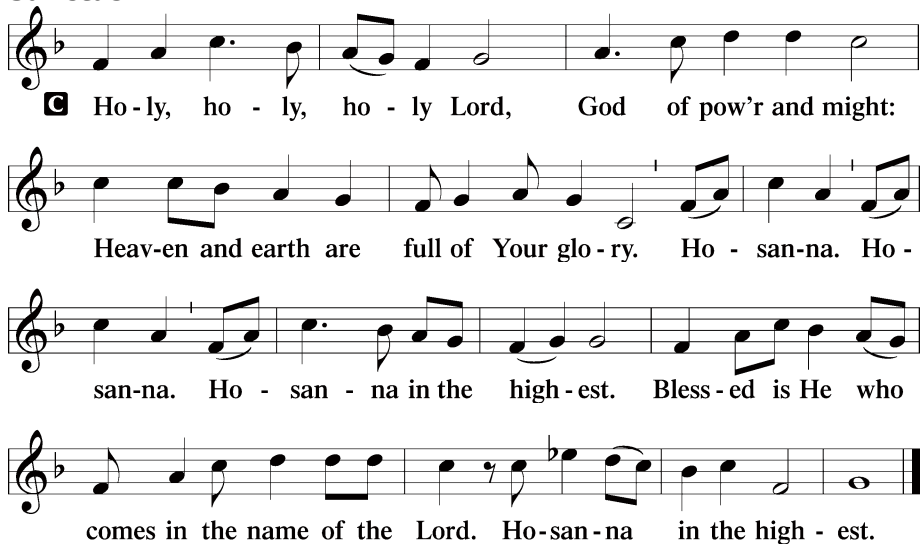
C **Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Simon Peter, and John,**

P *with Thomas, Cleopas, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection,*

C **with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven,**

P we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

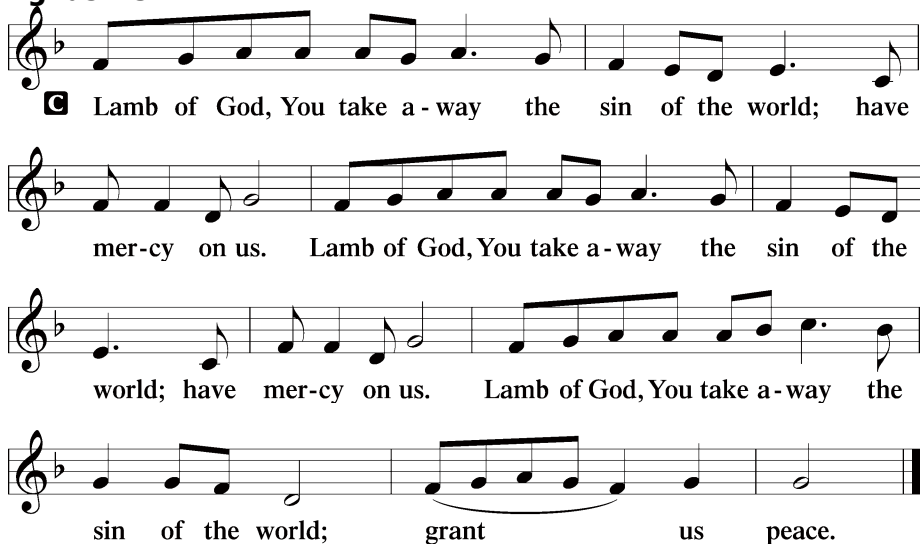


Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo-ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

Lord's Prayer

The Words of Our Lord

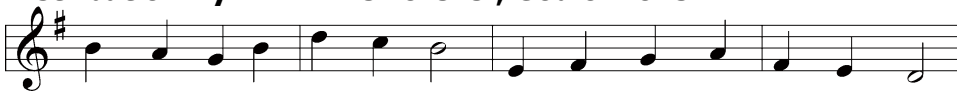
Agnus Dei



Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Distribution

Distribution Hymn: Thine Forever, God of Love

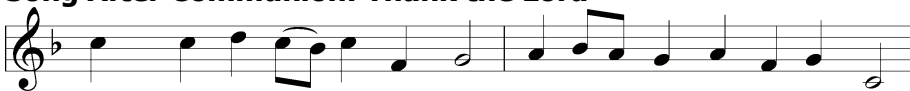


- 1 Thine for - ev - er, God of love! Hear us from Thy throne a - bove;
- 2 Thine for - ev - er! Oh, how blest They who find in Thee their rest!
- 3 Thine for - ev - er, Lord of Life! Shield us through our earth - ly strife.
- 4 Thine for - ev - er! Shep-herd, keep These Thy frail and trem-bling sheep;
- 5 Thine for - ev - er! Thou our guide, All our wants by Thee sup - plied,



Thine for - ev - er may we be Here and in e - ter - ni - ty!
Sav - ior, guard - ian, heav'n-ly friend, O de - fend us to the end!
Thou, the life, the truth, the way, Guide us to the realms of day.
Safe a - lone be - neath Thy care, Let us all Thy good-ness share.
All our sins by Thee for-giv'n; Lead us, Lord, from earth to heav'n.

Song After Communion: Thank the Lord



☐ Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

Benediction



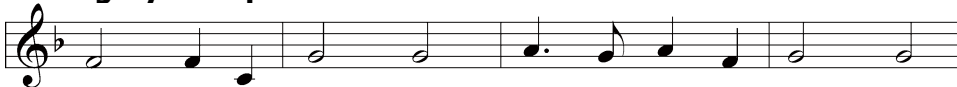
- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.



C A - men.

Announcements

Closing Hymn: Splendor and Honor



- 1 Splen - dor and hon - or, maj - es - ty and pow - er
- 2 Praised be the true Lamb, slain for our re - demp - tion,
- 3 To the Al - might - y, throned in heav'n - ly splen - dor,



Are Yours, O Lord God, fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing,
By whose self - of - f'ring we are made God's peo - ple:
And to the Sav - ior, Christ our Lamb and Shep - herd,



For by Your bid - ding was the whole cre -
A priest - ly king - dom, from all tongues and
Be ad - o - ra - tion, praise, and glo - ry



a - tion Called in - to be - ing.
na - tions, Called to God's ser - vice.
giv - en, Now and for - ev - er.

Postlude: Fughetta and Finale on "Abbot's Leigh"

Austin C. Lovelace

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

VBS 2026: "Rainforest Falls: Exploring the Nature of God" will take place on Monday, August 3rd through Friday, August 7th. Registration will start online on Monday, May 4th and can be found at stjlc.com/vbs-2026. Spaces are limited & the program fills up quickly. Please sign up as soon as possible. Any questions, please contact our VBS Director Karin Ryan at 631-862-8017.

VBS SNACKS DONATIONS NEEDED: We provide our campers with a daily snack and are looking for items to be brought to prepare these snacks. A list of these items is in the narthex. If you would like to contribute, please check out the list. Any questions, please contact Eve Miceli, snack leader at 631-862-1362.

DEACON INSTALLATION: Sandra McIlveen, James Sauer and Laretta Sauer will be installed as Atlantic District Lay Deacons during our 10am worship on Saturday, May 17th. Join us to pray and celebrate! A BBQ will follow worship.

PRINCESS PARTY: Calling all girls ages 2-8, please join us on May 16th from 2pm-4pm in the Parish Hall for a Princess Party! There will be a puppet show, princess tea and crafts! Come dressed as a princess. Female Adult accompaniment required (and they can dress up too!) \$10 per girl. No more than \$25 per family. RSVP at stjlc.com/events

FARMER'S MARKET: Hello St. James Lutheran Church! We are so happy to announce that the Farmers market is back! Beginning on Saturday, May 30th & continuing through to September 26th, our church will once again be participating with our own booth. We're looking for volunteers to help join in and make balloon animals, play with the kids in our kids' corner and spread the word about Jesus! All are welcome and we would love to have you there! Come out and have fun with us any Saturday from 9am-1pm. Please see the sign-up sheet in the Narthex or call Jim and Laretta Sauer at 631-523-3118. If you're looking for a way that you can Make a Difference in our community, this is a great and fun way to do it and stretch your faith! All are welcome!! God Bless!

ROOF IN A DAY: Saturday, May 16th, we are going to shingle the Parish Hall roof ourselves. If you are able to assist, please email office@stjlc.com to let us know. Please bring a hammer.

MOTHERS DAY: Outreach Ministry is creating a special Mother's Day bulletin to honor our mothers and those women who are in our lives both past and present. Fill out the slip and attach your free-will offering. The donations will be given to the Smithtown Food Pantry to help supple the pantry with fresh meats, various vegetables, and other perishable foods. Thank you all for your support.

OUR SAVIOR NEW AMERICAN SCHOOL: is looking to fill a couple teaching positions for the upcoming school year. They are looking for a secondary Math teacher, a secondary Spanish teacher, and a leave replacement teacher for the elementary school. Qualified candidates must be Bible-believing Christians who attend a Christ-centered church. If you have any interest, you are invited to reach out to Principal Stelzer at wil.stelzer@osnas.org.

USHERS NEEDED: There is a great need for more volunteer ushers to help at all the regular church service times, as well as the special Holiday services. An excerpt from our manual "*The ushers make a significant contribution to the smooth running of our Church services. It is our contribution to the church's ministry, and as such we are serving all.*" If you can help on a regular basis, you will be scheduled at most once a month, working around your availability. Please feel free to contact me and I can explain what our usher program is all about and how easy it is to do. Thank you in advance for your consideration in helping with this important part of the whole worship service. If you are moved to be an usher, please call/text/email Paul Monthie Hm: 631-928-4938 Cell: 631-275-2330, pamonthie@gmail.com

REMINDERS

FOOD PANTRY: Smithtown food pantry was open 13 days in March providing meals and essential products for 178 families. Our church is hosting the month of May at the food pantry. In the Narthex there is a sign-up calendar for volunteers on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 930AM – 12pm. We hope to have two volunteers each day to stock and hand out food. Current needs continue to be toilet paper, paper towels and laundry detergent. Pantry items can be dropped off at the food pantry during pantry hours or left in the Parish hall in the food pantry red bin. Monetary donations may be sent to: Smithtown Emergency Food Pantry, PO BOX 1663, Smithtown, NY 11787. Questions, call Jeanne Harmer 631-585-5631. "Lord help us to be your hands and feet in our community reflecting the love and compassion of Jesus Christ."

PIECEMAKERS: Calling all those with love for fabric, stitching and creating, PIECEMAKERS meets on Mondays from 1-3 pm in the youth room attached to the church office. Join us while we socialize and relax, designing, cutting and stitching comfort quilts. If you are new to this, we can teach you! Join us. Questions, call Jeanne Harmer 631-585-5631.

CHURCH OFFERINGS: If you do not use our electronic offering service, you may mail your church offering to the Church Office, 230 Second Ave, St. James, NY, 11780. Thank you for your continued support of our church!

Peek at the Week

SUNDAY May 3

8:30am Worship (Sanctuary)

10am Family Worship with Sunday School (Sanctuary)

11:30am – 12:15pm King's Kids Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

MONDAY May 4

1pm Piecemakers (Youth Room)

6:30pm Outreach Meeting (Parish Hall)

TUESDAY May 5

7:30pm Moms Group (Upper Room)

WEDNESDAY May 6

12:30pm Alpha Course (Parish Hall)

2pm-4pm Cancer Support Group (Youth Room)

6:30pm - 7:30pm Chancel Chimes Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

6:30pm - 7:30pm Confirmation (Parish Hall)

7pm-9pm Evening Alpha Course (Wheeler Home)

7:45pm - 9pm Worship Band Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

THURSDAY May 7

7pm Troop 301 Meeting (Parish Hall)

FRIDAY May 8

8am Morning Prayer (Sanctuary)

7pm-11pm Ladies Night Out (Parish Hall)

SATURDAY May 9

5:30pm Worship (Sanctuary)

SUNDAY May 10

8:30am Worship (Sanctuary)

10am Family Worship with Sunday School (Sanctuary)

11:30am – 12:15pm King's Kids Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

6pm-7:30pm TOF High School Hangout (Forbes Home)