



**Sunday, June 21, 2025, 10 am**

**THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN PENTECOST**



*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: Christine Eriksen / 8:30: Sandra McIlveen / 10:00: Greg Buscarino

Altar flowers have been given- In loving memory of Eleanor Miller for her birthday on June 24<sup>th</sup>, 1941. From, her children.

Pastor: Neil Mittelstaedt

Pastor: Conner Forbes

[www.stjlc.com](http://www.stjlc.com)

631- 584-5212

Ministers: All the people of St. James

## Opening Song: It Really is Amazing Grace

Amazing grace

How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me  
I once was lost, but now I'm found  
Was blind, but now I see

Singing hallelujah, there's no chains on me  
Thank you, Jesus, You have set me free  
You welcomed me in, called me by name  
Was dead in my sin, now I'm dancing on that grave  
Hallelujah, it really is amazing grace

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear  
And grace my fears relieved  
How precious did that grace appear  
The hour I first believed

Singing hallelujah, there's no chains on me  
Thank you, Jesus, You have set me free  
You welcomed me in, called me by name  
Was dead in my sin, now I'm dancing on that grave  
Hallelujah, it really is amazing grace

I'll testify of what He did  
He gave me life, I'm born again  
My heart is free, my soul is saved  
It really is amazing grace

I'll testify of what He did  
He gave me life, I'm born again  
My heart is free, my soul is saved  
It really is amazing grace

It really is, it really is  
It really is amazing grace  
It really is, it really is  
Sing hallelujah

Hallelujah, there's no chains on me  
Thank you, Jesus, You have set me free  
You welcomed me in, called me by name  
Was dead in my sin, now I'm dancing on that grave  
Hallelujah, it really is amazing grace

It really is, it really is  
It really is amazing grace  
It really is, it really is  
It really is amazing grace!

## Welcome and Announcements

### Invocation

### Confession and Absolution

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.  
**C** **But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** *[John 1:8,9]*

*-silence is kept for reflection and self-examination-*

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God the Father.

**C** **Almighty God, of great goodness,  
with my whole heart I confess my neglect and forgetfulness of Your  
commandments,  
my wrong doing, thinking, and speaking;  
the hurts I have done to others,  
and the good I have left undone.  
O God, forgive me, for I have sinned against You;  
and raise me to newness of life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
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 an 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**

### **Song of Praise: Great Are You Lord**

You give life, You are love  
You bring light to the darkness  
You give hope, You restore every heart that is broken  
And great are You, Lord

It's Your breath in our lungs  
So we pour out our praise, we pour out our praise  
It's Your breath in our lungs  
So we pour out our praise to You only

You give life, You are love  
You bring light to the darkness  
You give hope, You restore every heart that is broken  
And great are You, Lord

It's Your breath in our lungs  
So we pour out our praise, we pour out our praise  
It's Your breath in our lungs  
So we pour out our praise to You only

It's Your breath in our lungs  
So we pour out our praise, we pour out our praise  
It's Your breath in our lungs  
So we pour out our praise to You only

All the earth will shout Your praise  
Our hearts will cry, these bones will sing  
Great are You, Lord

All the earth will shout Your praise  
Our hearts will cry, these bones will sing  
Great are You, Lord

All the earth will shout Your praise  
Our hearts will cry, these bones will sing  
Great are You, Lord

It's Your breath in our lungs  
So we pour out our praise, we pour out our praise  
It's Your breath in our lungs  
So we pour out our praise to You only

It's Your breath in our lungs  
So we pour out our praise, we pour out our praise  
It's Your breath in our lungs  
So we pour out our praise to You only

### **Old Testament Reading**

*1 Samuel 16:14–23*

**A** The Old Testament Reading is from 1 Samuel, chapter 16.

<sup>14</sup>Now the Spirit of the LORD departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the LORD tormented him. <sup>15</sup>And Saul's servants said to him, "Behold now, an evil spirit from God is tormenting you. <sup>16</sup>Let our lord now command your servants who are before you to seek out a man who is skillful in playing the lyre, and when the evil spirit from God is upon you, he will play it, and you will be well." <sup>17</sup>So Saul said to his servants, "Provide for me a man who can play well and bring him to me." <sup>18</sup>One of the young men answered, "Behold, I have seen a son of Jesse the Bethlehemite, who is skillful in playing, a man of valor, a man of war, prudent in speech, and a man of good presence, and the LORD is with him." <sup>19</sup>Therefore Saul sent messengers to Jesse and said, "Send me David your son, who is with the sheep." <sup>20</sup>And Jesse took a donkey laden with bread and a skin of wine and a young goat and sent them by David his son to Saul. <sup>21</sup>And David came to Saul and entered his service. And Saul loved him greatly, and he became his armor-bearer. <sup>22</sup>And Saul sent to Jesse, saying, "Let David remain in my service, for he has found favor in my sight." <sup>23</sup>And whenever the evil spirit from God was upon Saul, David took the lyre and played it with his hand. So Saul was refreshed and was well, and the evil spirit departed from him.

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

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Holy Gospel Reading

Luke 19:28–40

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the nineteenth chapter.

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

<sup>28</sup>When [Jesus] had said these things, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. <sup>29</sup>When he drew near to Bethphage and Bethany, at the mount that is called Olivet, he sent two of the disciples, <sup>30</sup>saying, "Go into the village in front of you, where on entering you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever yet sat. Untie it and bring it here. <sup>31</sup>If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' you shall say this: 'The Lord has need of it.'" <sup>32</sup>So those who were sent went away and found it just as he had told them. <sup>33</sup>And as they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, "Why are you untying the colt?" <sup>34</sup>And they said, "The Lord has need of it." <sup>35</sup>And they brought it to Jesus, and throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. <sup>36</sup>And as he rode along, they spread their cloaks on the road. <sup>37</sup>As he was drawing near—already on the way down the Mount of Olives—the whole multitude of his disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, <sup>38</sup>saying, "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!" <sup>39</sup>And some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples." <sup>40</sup>He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out."

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

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

## Prayer of the Day

**L** Heavenly Father, You are worthy of all praise,

**C** **for You are an awesome God! Your good and gracious works are endless!**

**L** All of creation praises You, and today, Lord, we ask that You would teach us to do the same,

**C** **so that with faithful voices, we may sing of Your love and Your work forever.**

**L** Let our songs be a witness to the world of what we believe!

**C** **Let our songs remind us of who You are and what You've done!**

**L** In Jesus' name we pray, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, now,

**C** **and forever, amen.**

*(Children are dismissed for Children's Church)*

**Anthem: "I'm Gonna Sing" with "Over My Head" (King's Kids Choir)**

*arr. Terry D. Taylor*

**Sermon: Tell Me Why...We Sing**

## 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.**

## 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](http://stjlc.com/give). You may also give to God and the work of His Church by mailing your offering in.*



### Offering Prayer

- L** It is our faith that brings us here, O God.
- C** **It is our faith that leads us to offer these things.**
- L** Accept them, O God, not because you need them...
- C** **...but out of Your great Love for us.**
- 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 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 should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

### Sanctus



**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 Lord's Prayer

### The Words of Our Lord

#### Agnus Dei

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.

## Distribution

## **Distribution Song: Holy Forever**

A thousand generations falling down in worship  
To sing the song of ages to the Lamb  
And all who've gone before us and all who will believe  
Will sing the song of ages to the Lamb

Your name is the highest, Your name is the greatest  
Your name stands above them all  
All thrones and dominions, All powers and positions  
Your name stands above them all

And the angels cry holy  
All creation cries holy  
You are lifted high, holy  
Holy forever

If you've been forgiven and if you've been redeemed  
Sing the song forever to the Lamb  
If you walk in freedom and if you bear His name  
Sing the song forever to the Lamb  
We'll sing the song forever and amen

And the angels cry holy  
All creation cries holy  
You are lifted high, holy  
Holy forever

Hear Your people sing holy  
To the King of kings, holy  
You will always be holy  
Holy forever

Your name is the highest  
Your name is the greatest  
Your name stands above them all  
All thrones and dominions  
All powers and positions  
Your name stands above them all, Jesus

Your name is the highest  
Your name is the greatest  
Your name stands above them all

All thrones and dominions  
All powers and positions  
Your name stands above them all

And the angels cry holy  
All creation cries holy  
You are lifted high, holy  
Holy forever

Hear Your people sing holy  
To the King of kings, holy  
You will always be holy  
Holy forever  
You will always be holy  
Holy forever

### **Prayer after Communion**

- L** Lord Jesus Christ, may Your Holy Spirit fill us,
- C** **even as we are filled with the rich foods offered at Your table.**
- L** Empower us.
- C** **Unite us.**
- L** And lead us, at last, to Your heavenly courts. For You are the Lord forevermore.
- C** **Amen.**

### **Benediction**

#### **Closing Song: Awesome is the Lord Most High**

Great are You Lord mighty in strength  
You are faithful and You will ever be  
We will praise You all of our days  
It's for Your glory we offer ev'rything

Raise your hands all you nations  
Shout to God all creation  
How awesome is the Lord most high

Where You send us God we will go  
You're the answer we want the world to know  
We will trust You when You call our name  
Where You lead us we'll follow all the way

Raise your hands all you nations  
Shout to God all creation  
How awesome is the Lord most high

We will praise You together  
for now and forever  
How awesome is the Lord most high

Hallelujah hallelujah  
How awesome is the Lord most high  
Hallelujah hallelujah  
How awesome is the Lord most high

Raise your hands all you nations  
Shout to God all creation  
How awesome is the Lord most high

The Lord most high



Please join us outside after the 10am service for lemonade on the lawn!

## **NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING:** Will be held on June 21<sup>st</sup> immediately following the 10am Service.

## **REMINDERS**

**MOM'S BIBLE STUDY:** Join the Tuesday night Mom's Bible Study for a new study all about the Life of a Christian! We will be using Luther's Large Catechism to dig deep into how being Christian changes how we live. Most summer Tuesdays at 7:30pm at the Forbes House.

**A NEW BIBLE STUDY: REVELATION AND THE END TIMES:** You are invited to join us for our summer bible study on the Book of Revelation! There are so many questions about the End Times, and this is the place to learn what God will be doing when He returns. We will meet Thursdays at 10:00am in the Youth Room, or Sunday mornings around 11:45am in the Parish Hall. I hope you'll join us! – Pastor Conner

**CALLING ALL COOKS, BAKERS, AND FAMILY RECIPE KEEPERS:** Our Church family is creating a Cookbook, and we would love for YOU to be part of it. Whether you're known for your famous casserole, delicious desserts, hearty soups, quick midweek meals, or treasured family recipes, we invite you to share with us. Recipes from cooks, bakers, and kitchen experimenters of every kind are welcomed! Together we can create a cookbook filled with Faith, Fellowship, and flavors that bring people together! Please submit your favorite recipes to Angela Donohue, at Liangel5@aol.com, or drop your recipe in the Outreach mailbox outside of the pre-school office, by June 30, 2026. We can't wait to see the special dishes that make our Church family unique.

**VBS 2026:** "Rainforest Falls: Exploring the Nature of God" will take place on Monday, August 3rd through Friday, August 7th. Registration started on Monday, May 4th and can be found at [stjlc.com/vbs-2026](http://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.

**FOOD PANTRY:** Thank you to everyone who has donated food, funds, and willing hands to help handout food and essential products the month of May! Your generous donations are greatly appreciated! Donations can be left in the Narthex red bin OR dropped off at the pantry during its Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday pantry hours. At the current time laundry detergent, hygiene products, shampoo, and conditioner are needed. We can always use canned ravioli, peanut butter and jelly, and cereal. Monetary donations can be sent directly to the Smithtown Food Pantry, PO BOX 1663, Smithtown, NY 11787. Funds are used to purchase milk, eggs, chicken, and chopped meat. "Lord help us to be your hands and feet in our community reflecting the love and compassion of Jesus Christ."

**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!

**TO ORDER ALTAR FLOWERS:** Call Connie Marohn at 862-7123 after you have signed up for your requested date in the Altar Flower Book in the Narthex. Please use an Altar Guild envelope located in the Narthex to place your check for \$25.00 for *each* Bouquet payable to St. James Lutheran Church Flowers and the wording you wish printed in the bulletin. Place the envelope into the offering plate or mail to 230 Second Ave., NY 11780. Envelopes must be received by Monday for the subsequent weekend.

## **Peek at the Week**

### **SUNDAY June 21**

8:30am Worship (Sanctuary)

10am Family Worship with Children's Church (Sanctuary)

11:30am Congregational Meeting After 10am Service

11:45am-1pm Bible Study on Revelation and the Eschaton (Parish Hall)

### **MONDAY June 22**

1pm Piecemakers (Youth Room)

7pm-9pm MAD Ministry/Caregivers Meeting (Parish Hall)

### **TUESDAY June 23**

7:30pm Mom's Group (Forbes Home)

### **WEDNESDAY June 24**

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

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

### **THURSDAY June 25**

10am-11:30am Bible Study on Revelation and the Eschaton (Youth Room)

### **FRIDAY June 26**

8am Morning Prayer (Sanctuary)

### **SATURDAY June 27**

9am – 1pm Farmer's Market (Big Parking Lot)

5:30pm Worship (Sanctuary)

### **SUNDAY June 28**

8:30am Worship (Sanctuary)

10am Family Worship with Children's Church/Baptism of Vincent Timothy Russo (Sanctuary)

11:30am Retirement Party for Meredith Johansson immediately following the 10am service.