

ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you would like to order an Easter flower to adorn the altar for Easter services, please choose from the selection to the right and email your order by 3/23 to Linda at: steward@stjamesjohnston.org

- Palm Branches (14-16 per bunch) \$7.99**
- Easter Lily (single stem) 5 to 9 blooms: \$12.60**
- Rieger Begonias 4.5" \$8.23 and 6" \$14.99**
- Hyacinth 6" \$10.99**
- Hydrangea 6" \$15.99**
- Daffodil 6" \$10.99**
- Tulip 6" \$10.99**
- Mum 6.5" \$11.99**

Mark your calendars:

- Celebration of Brenda Jurgens Life at Saint James, Saturday, March 28, 2:00 p.m.
- Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 28, 10:00 a.m. at Meadowview of Johnston (5555 Pioneer Parkway)
- Luther College Jazz Orchestra tour will be performing at Saint James on Sunday, March 29, at 4:00 p.m. We will also be providing a meal for the orchestra after the show. If you are interested in helping with the meal, please contact Linda @ steward@stjamesjohnston.org
- You're invited to Palm Sunday Public Witness walk on March 29. The march will begin at 2:30 p.m. at Capitol Hill Lutheran Church (5ll Des Moines Street) to the statehouse. At 3:00 p.m., "Grounded in Matthew 25", the public witness continues at the statehouse with music, the Word, and a Call to Action to Stand With Our Neighbors.

YOU'RE INVITED TO CELEBRATE
**LUTHERAN LAKESIDE
COMMITMENT SUNDAY**



SUNDAY, MARCH 29
10:30-11:30AM AT SAINT JAMES

**PANCAKES PROVIDED BY
URBANDALE LIONS CLUB**

BRING YOUR "FOR EVERY SEASON"
COMMITMENT CARD

Dana Slater
Faculty Clarinet Recital

with
Kim Helton, flute
Liz Augsburg, piano

featuring
The world premiere of
Spencer Brand's
Prairie Seasons Sonata

MARCH 23, 2026 | 7:30 PM
TURNER JAZZ CENTER

Prayer of the Day

O God of mercy and might, in the mystery of the passion of your Son you offer your infinite life to the world. Gather us around the cross of Christ, and preserve us until the resurrection, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Psalm 31:9-16

Be gracious to me, O Lord, for I am in distress;
my eye wastes away from grief, my soul and body also.

**For my life is spent with sorrow and my years with sighing;
my strength fails because of my misery, and my bones waste away.**

I am the scorn of all my adversaries, a horror to my neighbors,
an object of dread to my acquaintances; those who see me in the street flee from me.

**I have passed out of mind like one who is dead;
I have become like a broken vessel.**

For I hear the whispering of many—terror all around!—
as they scheme together against me, as they plot to take my life.

But I trust in you, O Lord; I say, “You are my God.”

My times are in your hand; deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors.

Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.

Second Reading: Philippians 2:5-11

A reading from Paul’s letter to the Philippians.

⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, assuming human likeness. And being found in appearance as a human, ⁸ he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore God exalted him even more highly and gave him the name that is above every other name, ¹⁰ so that at the name given to Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel: John 19:1-16a

The Holy Gospel according to Saint John. **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. ² And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple robe. ³ They kept coming up to him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” and striking him on the face. ⁴ Pilate went out again and said to them, “Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no case against him.” ⁵ So Jesus came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, “Behold the man!” ⁶ When the chief priests and the police saw him, they shouted, “Crucify him! Crucify him!” Pilate said to them, “Take him yourselves and crucify him; I find no case against him.” ⁷ The Jews answered him, “We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has claimed to be the Son of God.”

⁸ Now when Pilate heard this, he was more afraid than ever. ⁹ He entered his headquarters again and asked Jesus, "Where are you from?" But Jesus gave him no answer. ¹⁰ Pilate therefore said to him, "Do you refuse to speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you and power to crucify you?" ¹¹ Jesus answered him, "You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin." ¹² From then on Pilate tried to release him, but the Jews cried out, "If you release this man, you are no friend of Caesar. Everyone who claims to be a king sets himself against Caesar."

¹³ When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside and sat on the judge's bench at a place called The Stone Pavement, or in Hebrew Gabbatha. ¹⁴ Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover, and it was about noon. He said to the Jews, "Here is your King!" ¹⁵ They cried out, "Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!" Pilate asked them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar." ¹⁶ Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Prayers of Intercession

Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs...

O God, you announce words of grace and truth. Give wisdom to all preachers in your church both globally and locally. Open our hearts to encounter the infinite life you offer in Jesus. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You hold the whole universe. Gather sun and moon, clouds and stars, land and sea, and plants and animals around the cross, so that all creation bears witness to your saving love. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Your power is sure. Destroy inequity and division in every place, and build your beloved community among all people. Guide judges, attorneys, and juries so that they act with justice and fairness. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Your heart breaks open at our pain. Send healing and vindication to all who, like Jesus, know the sting of betrayal, denial, abuse, or false accusations. Be with those experiencing pain or loss this day. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Your ways show compassion. Let this same mind be in us as we enter Holy Week. Bless those here who will lead worship and tell the story of Jesus' death and resurrection. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

O God, your embrace is eternal. Praise and thanks to you for all the faithful departed who rest in your mercy. Deliver us all from death's power and raise us to life in you. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation. **Amen.**

What's Happening

March 18-20

- Wednesday 10:30am Chair Yoga
5:45pm Soup Supper
6:30pm Holden Evening Prayer,
NO GROW, Confirmation, ABIDE, Bible Study
- Thursday 9:00am Women's Coffee Group at Saint James
4:00pm Hope Agency Cheer practice

March 21-27

- Saturday 5:00pm Worship In-Person & Facebook Live
- Sunday 9:30am Worship In-Person & Facebook Live
Sunday 10:30am Fellowship
- Monday 9:00am Bible Study
10:30am Chair Yoga
- Tuesday 7:00am Men's Breakfast Group at HyVee
9:00am Online Bible Study ([Connect Here](#))
- Wednesday 10:30am Chair Yoga
5:45pm Soup Supper
6:30pm Holden Evening Prayer, GROW (preschool-5th)
7:00pm Confirmation, Bible Study
7:00pm ABIDE High School Youth Movie night
Heavyweights. Candy salad
- Thursday 9:00am Women's Coffee Group at Saint James
4:00pm Hope Agency Cheer practice

Celebrations March 21-27:

Birthdays: Aaron Anderson, Ginger Yates, Terry Warmbier, Aaron Lehman, Lawrence Cooper

Anniversaries: James & Alisha Rhodes

Connect with Us!

5665 Merle Hay Road, PO Box 62, Johnston, IA 50131
(515) 276-0134 – Steward@StJamesJohnston.org

www.StJamesJohnston.org Here you can connect to:

- Our online service and our online giving portal
- Our calendar
- Our Online Bible Study
- Our staff and much more!

Text Pastor Bill at 515.669.7631 or Email Pastor Bill at Pastor@StJamesJohnston.org

First time visitor? Email Pastor for a Welcome gift.

