



September 2023

Saint James Lutheran Church – Johnston, Iowa

We're glad you're here and hope you will come again!

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross.

Blessed be God, the one who forms us, † Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete. **Amen.**

Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Steadfast and faithful God, **you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding. God's compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us. In † Christ, you are already and always forgiven. **Amen.**

Gathering Song

Sep 3	#526	God is Here
Sep 10	#522	As We Gather at Your Table
Sep 17	#532	Gather Us In
Sep 24	#583	Take My Life, That I May Be

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Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

Children's Sermon

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

	1st Lesson	2nd Lesson	Gospel Lesson
Sept 3	Ps 26:1-8	Rms 12:9-21	Matthew 1:1-17
Sept 10	Ps 60	1 Samuel 8	Luke 4:1-13
Sept 17	Ps 2	1 Samuel 9	Luke 14:25-33
Sept 24	Ps 62	1 Samuel 13-15	Matthew 21:33-46

The Readings

After each reading: The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Please stand as you are able.

Gospel Acclamation



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

Repeat alleluia



Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Gospel Lesson

Before reading: The Holy Gospel according to St... **Glory to you, O Lord.**

After reading: The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Hymn of the Day

Sep 3 #798 Will You Come and Follow Me

Sep 10 #731 Earth and All Stars

Sep 17 #835 All Creatures, Worship God Most High

Sep 24 #765 Lord of All Hopefulness

The Creed

Let us confess our shared faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

Each petition ends: Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

The prayers conclude: ...in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

The assembly may share a sign of God's peace and then is seated.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and



God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your



glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the



Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the
sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the
cross, opened his arms to all.
In the night in which he was betrayed...
Again, after supper...

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await
his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all
who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our
Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now
and forever. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Our Father in heaven,
 hallowed be your name,
 your kingdom come,
 your will be done,
 on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
 as we forgive those
 who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
 and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
 and the glory are yours,
 now and forever. Amen.

Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.

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

Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.

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

Come to the Lord’s Table There is a place for you and enough for all.

Please be seated. All are welcome at the Lord’s table. We receive communion by intinction (i.e. dipping the wafer into the cup). Please use a little Purell on your hands before coming forward. For those who would prefer not to dip their wafer, you may be assured that the crucified and risen Christ is fully present for you in, with and under one element.

If you brought an offering, you are invited to bring it forward to the offering baskets as you come forward for communion.

Choir Song

Communion Song

Sep 3	466	In the Singing
Sep 10	465	As the Grains of Wheat
Sep 17	656	Blest Be the Tie That Binds
Sep 24	770	Give Me Jesus

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Announcements

Please stand as you are able.

Post Communion Prayer

We thank you, O God, that you have strengthened our hearts through this feast of life and salvation. Shine the light of Christ on our path, that we may do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you, now and forever. **Amen.**

BLESSING

The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, keep your hearts and your minds in ☩ Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

Sep 3	543	Go My Children With My Blessing
Sep 10	836	Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee
Sep 17	721	Goodness Is Stronger than Evil
Sep 24	867	In Thee is Gladness

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Announcements

September Newsletters were emailed on August 30, and hard copies are available in the display racks at entrance to church.

September 9 & 10 is Food Pantry Weekend. Please consider bringing canned vegetables, macaroni & cheese or a financial donation to feed those who are hungry!

Coming this Fall: Table Talks! Wednesdays September 20 & 27, October 4 & 11 from 5:30-7pm. Dinner and Conversation with your friends about the future of Saint James: ministry, property, worship, finances, staff, justice, etc. September 20 includes special guest: Bishop Current!

Join Us Weekly for Fellowship Time following Sunday Worship!

- **1st Sunday of the Month:** Potluck Treats (*bring cookies, donuts, fruit, meat & cheese, little sausages, hard boiled eggs, etc.*)
- **2nd Sunday of the Month:** Sign-Up to bring 3 dozen treats (3 slots Available) Saint James Lutheran Church: Fellowship Hosts (signupgenius.com)
- **3rd Sunday of the Month:** Food Pantry Fast (instead of having treats; bring a food pantry item.) Coffee will be served.
- **4th Sunday of the Month:** Church provides treats!
- **5th Sunday of the Month:** Sign-Up to bring 3 dozen treats (3 slots Available) Saint James Lutheran Church: Fellowship Hosts (signupgenius.com)

God Rocks On Wednesdays! Wednesday night education is back beginning on September 6th! Let's GROW together in our faith.

Preschool-5th Grade (6-7 p.m.):

- 6:00-Meal (freewill donations accepted)
- 6:20-Whole group story and music
- 6:35-Grade-level classroom fun

Confirmation (7-8 p.m.):

- **6th-8th Grade with Pastor, Rebecca and Amanda Henry**
Pizza served at 6:45 (freewill donations accepted)
Parent/student meeting on September 6
- **9th Grade (Sept. 6-Oct. 25) with Vicar Tori**
Confirmation is Sunday, October 29, during worship.
Parent/student meeting with Vicar Tori on September 6 at 7:00

Join us for Choir:

- Bell Choir weekly rehearsals begin Wednesday, September 6th, 7-8pm.
- Vocal Choir weekly practices begin September 10th from 8:15-9:15am
- Come sing when you can! All are welcome. Your voice and presence will be a service to your congregation, a sweet offering and sacrifice of praise to our Lord.

Blessing of Animals will be Sunday, October 1. Mark your calendars!