

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW Thank you for completing your Estimate of Giving forms so the Council and Staff can continue the 2027 Operations and Mortgage Financial planning.

We will announce the results in the coming weeks!!

NEW Future “Connections Wednesdays”

October 28 Serving Others: Speaker from Joppa and making bags from old t-shirts

November 4 Cards: Let's Play Hearts

November 11 Book/Movie Club: Lessons in Chemistry, Bonnie Garmus

November 18 Life Skills: Why are Family Gatherings so Stressful?

PRAYER VIGIL FOR ELECTION DAY: Join us in prayer for voters, election workers, candidates, and officeholders on the day before Election Day. The vigil will be held 7:00am–7:00pm at Saint James. Sign up for one or more 15-minute prayer times; prayer resources will be provided. At 7:00pm, Pastor Bill Bernau will lead a brief lesson, prayer, and hymn. Everyone is welcome.

Sign up at: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040B48A4AD29A75-66454419-election#/

T-Shirts Needed: On October 28, we will host a speaker from Joppa to learn about their ministry. Afterward, we will be making bags out of old t-shirts for their organization. Please drop off any old (adult sized) t-shirts in the bin located in the fellowship space. Please contact Rebecca (education@stjamesjohnston.org) with any questions.

Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service at St. Paul on Sunday, November 22, 7:00pm.
Mass Choir Rehearsal (all are welcome) 5:45-6:15 and Soup Supper starting at 6:00pm.

Friday, November 6, 6:00 pm Lakeside Lock-In at Saint James. 6th-12th graders are invited. Please invite a friend. Since Lakeside is providing the staff, we need a head count-even if you can only stay until midnight. You can register here (required):
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSex0_E1age9lvajANtYpaHdftiaaupS8BD6TVVx6rjUSumVAQ/viewform Questions? Ask Rebecca or Kristin.

Prayer of the Day

O Lord God, you are the holy lawgiver, you are the salvation of your people. By your Spirit renew us in your covenant of love, and train us to care tenderly for all our neighbors, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Psalm 1

Their delight is in the law of the Lord. (Ps. 1:2)

¹ Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked,
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

² **Their delight is in the law of the Lord,
and they meditate on God's teaching day and night.**

³ They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves
that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper.

⁴ **It is not so with the wicked;
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**

⁵ Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes,
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

⁶ **For the Lord knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.**

Second Reading: Exodus 20:1-21

Then God spoke all these words, "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

"You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above or that is on the earth beneath or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

"You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

"Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and consecrated it.

"Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

"You shall not murder.,

"You shall not commit adultery.

"You shall not steal.

"You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

"You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, male or female slave, ox, donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor."

When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking, they were afraid and trembled and stood at a distance and said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will listen, but do not let God speak to us, lest we die." Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid, for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon you so that you do not sin." Then the people stood at a distance, while Moses drew near to the thick darkness where God was.
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel: Matthew 22:34-40

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

³⁴ When the Pharisees heard that [Jesus] had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, ³⁵ and one of them, an expert in the law, asked him a question to test him. ³⁶ "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" ³⁷ He said to him, " 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' ³⁸ This is the greatest and first commandment. ³⁹ And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' ⁴⁰ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets." The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Prayers of Intercession

Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world... Gracious God, as we remember the Reformation, we thank you for all those who have worked to hold the church accountable to its mission. Protect them as they speak truth to power. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We give thanks for the beauty of the world's islands, coastlines, and low-lying places. Keep them and their inhabitants safe from harm. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We thank you for the diversity of humankind, made in your image. We pray for the future of endangered languages and cultures. Preserve them to show forth your glory. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for the healing of all who are sick or injured, especially those who cannot access medical care. We remember those whom we love who are suffering or in pain. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We give thanks for retired clergy and their families, honoring their faithful service to your church. Bless them as they find new ways to live into their vocation. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We thank you for all the faithful departed who taught us to love God and our neighbor. By their example, help us to seek after you with heart, soul, and mind. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

What's Happening

October 24-30

- Saturday 5:00pm Worship In-Person & Facebook Live
- Sunday 9:30am Worship In-Person & Facebook Live
10:30am Fellowship – Breakfast Pizza
- Monday 9:00am Bible Study in person
10:30am Chair Yoga
- Tuesday 7:00am Men's Breakfast Group at HyVee
9:00am Online Bible Study ([Connect Here](#))
8:00pm AA meeting, all are welcome
- Wednesday 10:30am Chair Yoga
6:00pm Dinner for All
6:30-7:15pm GROW (God Rocks on Wednesdays) PS-5th Grade
6:30-7:15pm Serving Others – Joppa presentation/service project
7:15-8:00pm Confirmation (6th-8th Grade)
7:15-8:00pm ABIDE
7:15-8:00pm Adult Bible Study
- Thursday 9:00am Women's Coffee
- Friday Church Offices Closed

Celebrations October 24-30:

Birthdays: Ben Lehman, Loryn McLenna, Victoria Payseur, Gary Bridgewater, Stephanie Toot, Diane Bridgewater

Anniversaries: Al & Mary Dzubak

Connect with Us!

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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!

