

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **NEW Upcoming Events:**

- **June 17, 7:30 p.m.:** Outdoor games (volleyball, kickball, etc.) for HS and MS Youth.
- **June 23 and July 21, 12:15-12:45 p.m.:** Johnston Public Library is bringing their “Pop-Up Library” to St. James for Free Summer lunch program. They will be bringing games, crafts and activities to enjoy,.

**Christian Ethics and American Politics on Wednesdays during June: What does Jesus teach about right and wrong?** Pagliai’s Pizza at 6pm.

### **VBS details are now here!**

- Join us **June 29-July 2 from 8:45-11:30** for *Operation Restoration: Mending God’s World*, hosted by St. James Lutheran, St. Paul Presbyterian, and First Baptist Churches. VBS will be held at St. Paul, 6426 Merle Hay Road this year. All preschool-5<sup>th</sup> grade students are welcome, so invite your friends, neighbors, grandkids and more!
- **Register for VBS here:** <https://forms.gle/VuDjktcFYjuCjsKm6>
- **Sign up to volunteer here** (or contact Rebecca):  
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScGpRR0AML7jrocx-iXFG-ZUZregLYoWh7t8Y0wXJL3lvrPfQ/viewform>

## Prayer of the Day

God of compassion, you have opened the way for us and brought us to yourself. Pour your love into our hearts, that, overflowing with joy, we may freely share the blessings of your realm and faithfully proclaim the good news of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## First Lesson: Matthew 13

<sup>13</sup> That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. <sup>2</sup> Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. <sup>3</sup> And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. <sup>4</sup> And as he sowed, some seeds fell on a path, and the birds came and ate them up. <sup>5</sup> Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. <sup>6</sup> But when the sun rose, they were scorched, and since they had no root, they withered away. <sup>7</sup> Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. <sup>8</sup> Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. <sup>9</sup> If you have ears,<sup>[a]</sup> hear!" The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 116 spoken responsively

<sup>1</sup> I love the Lord because he has heard my voice and my supplications.

<sup>2</sup> **Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live.**

<sup>12</sup> What shall I return to the Lord for all his bounty to me?

<sup>13</sup> **I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord;**

<sup>14</sup> I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people.

<sup>15</sup> **Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his faithful ones.**

<sup>16</sup> O Lord, I am your servant;

I am your servant, the child of your serving girl. You have loosed my bonds.

<sup>17</sup> **I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice and call on the name of the Lord.**

<sup>18</sup> I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people,

<sup>19</sup> **in the courts of the house of the Lord,  
in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the Lord!**

## Second Lesson: [also] Matthew 13

<sup>24</sup> [Jesus] put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field, <sup>25</sup> but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away. <sup>26</sup> So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. <sup>27</sup> And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' <sup>28</sup> He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' <sup>29</sup> But he replied, 'No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. <sup>30</sup> Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'" The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel: [also] Matthew 13**

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

<sup>31</sup> He put before them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; <sup>32</sup> it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

<sup>33</sup> He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with<sup>[e]</sup> three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

<sup>44</sup> “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and reburied; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

<sup>45</sup> “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; <sup>46</sup> on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

<sup>47</sup> “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; <sup>48</sup> when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. <sup>49</sup> So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous <sup>50</sup> and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

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

## **Prayers of Intercession**

Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the church and the needs of the world...

God of freedom, you ransomed Israel from slavery to be a holy people. As we observe Juneteenth this coming week, free us also to be a people who proclaim your liberating love. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of creation, you call all the earth to make a joyful noise to you. Let us join the chorus of the natural world in proclaiming your glory. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of the nations, you sent Jesus as peace for all of humankind. Bring an end to war and conflict, bring hope to places devastated by destruction, and sustain those who advocate for peace. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of grace, you pour hope and love into our hearts in times of shame and doubt. Protect those experiencing housing insecurity. Uplift anyone struggling with hopelessness, illness, or other worries. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of all, you call your children to serve in a plentiful harvest. Give us the wisdom to know how best to serve our local community and our neighbors.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of faith, we give thanks for the saints who earnestly seek you. Guide us as we seek to follow those who have led your church. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Trusting you receive all our prayers, we commend our spoken and unspoken prayers to you, O God, through Jesus our Savior. **Amen.**

## What's Happening

### June 10-12

- Wednesday 10:30am Chair Yoga  
6:00pm Community meal; Pagliai's pizza (freewill donations)  
6:30pm Confirmation for the Rest of Us
- Friday Church Offices Closed

### June 13-19

- Saturday 5:00pm Worship In-Person
- Sunday 9:00am Fellowship and Live Music at Terra Park  
9:30am Ecumenical Worship at Terra Park
- 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](#))  
8:00pm AA meeting, all are welcome
- Wednesday 10:30am Chair Yoga  
6:00pm Community meal; Pagliai's pizza (freewill donations)  
6:30pm Confirmation for the Rest of Us  
7:30pm Outdoor games (volleyball, kickball, etc.) for HS and MS Youth

### Celebrations June 13-19:

**Birthdays:** Richard Burlingame, Richard Wall, Ryan Johanson, Jan Baagoe

**Anniversaries:** Charles & Paige Fiedler, Rex & Sue Thompson, Rodney & Kathleen Olesen, Jarret & Andrea Ruddy

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### Connect with Us!

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(515) 276-0134 – [Steward@StJamesJohnston.org](mailto:Steward@StJamesJohnston.org)

**[www.StJamesJohnston.org](http://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](mailto:Pastor@StJamesJohnston.org)

***First time visitor? Email Pastor for a Welcome gift.***

