

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW Upcoming Events:

- Sunday, August 9, 10:30 a.m.: Assemble Blessing Bags during fellowship
- Wednesday, August 12, 7:30 p.m.: ABIDE Silver Cord opportunity
- Friday, August 14, 8:00-5:00 p.m. and Saturday, August 15, 8:00-3:00 p.m.: Rummage Sale
- Sunday, August 16, 10:30 a.m.: Assemble canned fruit sculpture after worship.
- Wednesday, August 19, 7:30 p.m.: Grades 8-12 movie night
- Wednesday, September 2, 6:00 p.m.: Fall Kick-Off Picnic. Grilled hot dogs & brats, live music, bounce house, lawn games and more. Don't miss the fun!

NEW Saint James has once again entered the Food Sculpture Contest for Johnston Partnership. Last year we won the People's Choice award! This year's theme is "Fruit-Full Giving", so we will be constructing an apple out of canned goods. Bring in your canned goods for the sculpture, especially cans with red labels (like Hunt's tomato products and Campbell's Soups) to church by Sunday, August 16, which is the day we will construct the sculpture. All food then gets donated to Johnston Partnership afterward.

Confirmation for the Rest of Us in July: Jesus speaks about The World, Heaven, The Church & The End! This week will be a potluck at 6:00 p.m. Please bring a main dish, side or dessert to share.

Rummage Sale Youth Fundraiser! On Friday (8/14) and Saturday (8/15) we will have a Rummage Sale at Saint James to benefit our students attending the National Youth Gathering in June 2027. Donations are welcome and collection dates are as follows:

- Thursday 8/6 from 4-6pm
- Sunday 8/9 from 11am-1pm
- Thursday 8/13 from 9am-12pm and 3pm-5pm

All items not sold at the end of the event will be donated to Hope Ministries Thrift Store on Merle Hay Road. We are looking for boxes for packing any unsold items. Please contact Kristin with questions at youth@stjamesjohnston.org Sign up to help at the sale here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C054CA4A928A5F49-64768025-rummage>

Prayer of the Day

Glorious God, your generosity waters the world with goodness, and you cover creation with abundance. Awaken in us a hunger for the food that satisfies both body and spirit, and with this food fill all the starving world; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading: Isaiah 55:1-5

God invites Israel to a great feast at which both food and drink are free. God also promises to make an everlasting covenant with all peoples, with promises that previously had been limited to Israel. As David was a witness to the nations, these nations shall now acknowledge the ways in which God has glorified Israel. The lesson begins...

¹ Hear, everyone who thirsts; come to the waters;

and you who have no money, come, buy and eat!

Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

² Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread

and your earnings for that which does not satisfy?

Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.

³ Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live.

I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David.

⁴ See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples.

⁵ Now you shall call nations that you do not know,

and nations that do not know you shall run to you,

because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading: Romans 9:1-5

This begins a new section in Paul's letter in which he will deal with the place of Israel in God's saving plan. He opens by highlighting how Israel's heritage and legacy include being God's children, having God's covenants, being given God's law, participating in worship of God, and receiving divine promises. The lesson begins...

¹ I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit—² I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³ For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own brothers and sisters, my own flesh and blood. ⁴ They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; ⁵ to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Christ, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel: Matthew 14:13-21

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

¹³ Now when Jesus heard [about the beheading of John the Baptist,] he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴ When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. ¹⁵ When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." ¹⁶ Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." ¹⁷ They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." ¹⁸ And he said, "Bring them here to me." ¹⁹ Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰ And all ate and were filled, and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. ²¹ And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

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

Prayers of Intercession

With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation... For your church in every place, that it satisfies those who hunger for your word. Bless the ministry of readers, translators, Bible study leaders, and writers, that God's word is broken open and shared with all. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For your wondrous creation and all the bounty it provides, that your creatures are fed and nourished. Bless the work of farmers, farmworkers, those who fish, and all whose labor brings your abundance to our tables. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For your children in every nation, that they learn to love justice and live in harmony. As this week we remember the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, keep us mindful of the horrors of war; draw our hearts instead toward your reign of love, hope, and peace. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For all who cry out with great sorrow and unceasing anguish, that they are comforted. Feed all who struggle with food insecurity; have mercy on all who are suffering in body, mind, and spirit. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For this congregation, that it bears faithful witness to the abundance and joy of life in you. Bless all your faithful people gathered here, that they may become blessings for this community. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

With thanksgiving for the faithful who now rest in your mercy, that their witness continues to inspire the church. By their example, may we trust your promises in life and in death. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

What's Happening

July 29-31

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

August 1-7

- Saturday 5:00pm Worship In-Person & Facebook Live
- Sunday 9:30am Worship In-Person & Facebook Live
10:30am Fellowship
- Monday Bible Study in person
10:30am Chair Yoga
- Tuesday 7:00am Men's Breakfast Group at HyVee
Online Bible Study ([Connect Here](#))
8:00pm AA meeting, all are welcome
- Wednesday 10:30am Chair Yoga
6:00pm Community meal (freewill donations)
6:30pm Confirmation for the Rest of Us
- Friday Church Offices Closed

Celebrations August 1-7:

Birthdays: Bowen Hannan, Paulette Schultz, Wendy Aanonson, Pat Schnepf

Anniversaries: Jan & William Baagoe, Jeff & Michele Kane, Jerry & Debby Wylie, Erik & Wendy Aanonson

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!

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

First time visitor? Email Pastor for a Welcome gift.

