



**Sunday, August 31, 2025, 10 am**

**TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**



*Changing lives with the love of God  
to the glory of God*

## Welcome Guests!

We're glad you're with us today!

We hope you'll introduce yourself to the Pastor at the Church door after worship today.

### Worship Schedule

Our regular worship times are:

**Saturdays** at 5:30 pm

**Sundays** at 8:30 am & 10:00 am

**Sunday School** at 10:00 am September-June

Serving in the Lord's house today:

5:30: Carol Chirco / 8:30: Jim Sauer / 10:00: Sandra McIlveen

Altar flowers have been given- in memory of William Fisher, loving husband and Dad.  
From, Tina and Alex Fisher

Pastor: Neil Mittelstaedt

Pastor: Conner Forbes

[www.stjlc.com](http://www.stjlc.com)

631- 584-5212

Ministers: All the people of St. James

## Opening Hymn: Open the Eyes of My Heart

[Verse]

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord  
Open the eyes of my heart  
I want to see You, I want to see You  
Open the eyes of my heart, Lord  
Open the eyes of my heart  
I want to see You, I want to see You

[Chorus]

To see You high and lifted up  
Shinin' in the light of Your glory  
Pour out Your power and love  
As we sing holy, holy, holy

[Verse]

[Chorus]

[Bridge - repeat 4x]

Holy, holy, holy  
Holy, holy, holy  
Holy, holy, holy  
I want to see You

## Welcome and Announcements

### Invocation

### Confession and Absolution

**P** Because we have faith in God's mercy, we dare to approach Him with confidence.

*- Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination-*

**P** Holy and merciful God,

**C** **we confess our sinfulness and our offenses against You.**

**You alone know how often we have wandered from Your good ways, wasted Your excellent gifts, and forgotten Your amazing love.**

**Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we are sorry and ashamed for all we have done against You.**

**Forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior.**

**P** Hear the good news! "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." *[John 3:16]*  
Jesus was given by His Father to save sinners, therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I declare to you the entire forgiveness of your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**9 Amen. Aid us now, Lord, to enjoy Your presence, share our faith, and show your ways.**

**P** Amen.

## Hymn of Praise: This is the Feast

**A** This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

**Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,**

[illegible]

whose blood set us free to be people of God.

Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and strength and

hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are His.

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le -

[illegible]

lu - ia. Sing with all the peo - ple of

God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:

Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and might be to  
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.  
 This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,  
 for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun His reign.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## Epistle Reading

*Philemon 4-6*

**A** The Epistle is from Philemon.

<sup>4</sup>Philemon, I always thank my God when I mention you in my prayers because <sup>5</sup>I hear about your faithfulness to the Lord Jesus and your love for all of God's people. **<sup>6</sup>As you share the faith you have** in common with others, I pray that you may come to have a complete knowledge of every blessing we have in Christ.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Holy Gospel Reading

Luke 5:1–11

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the tenth chapter.



**C** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>On one occasion, while the crowd was pressing in on [Jesus] to hear the word of God, he was standing by the lake of Gennesaret, <sup>2</sup>and he saw two boats by the lake, but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. <sup>3</sup>Getting into one of the boats, which was Simon's, he asked him to put out a little from the land. And he sat down and taught the people from the boat. <sup>4</sup>And when he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." <sup>5</sup>And Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at your word I will let down the nets." <sup>6</sup>And when they had done this, they enclosed a large number of fish, and their nets were breaking. <sup>7</sup>They signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. <sup>8</sup>But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord." <sup>9</sup>For he and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish that they had taken, <sup>10</sup>and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, **"Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men."** <sup>11</sup>And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed him.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

## Prayer of the Day

**L** *Heavenly Father, You have put Your hand on us;*

**C** **You have baptized us into Christ, who lives and is on a mission,**

**L** *a mission to seek and save the lost.*

**C** **He said that mission is a lot like fishin'!**

**L** *Motivate us by Your Holy Spirit to get off the dock and into the boat.*

**C** **Send us to people living nearby;**

**L** *send us to make friends*

**C** **and share with them the love and faith You've put in our hearts;**

**L** *through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. He lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit; one God, now*

**C** **and forever. Amen.**

## **Hymn: Build My Life**

[Verse 1]

Worthy of ev'ry song we could ever sing  
Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring  
Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever breathe  
We live for You

[Verse 2]

Jesus, the Name above every other name  
Jesus, the only One who could ever save  
You're worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever breathe  
We live for You, oh we live for You

[Chorus]

Holy, there is no one like You  
There is none besides You  
Open up my eyes in wonder  
Show me who You are and fill me with Your heart  
And lead me in Your love  
To those around me

[Bridge]

I will build my life upon Your love  
It is a firm foundation  
I will put my trust in You alone  
And I will not be shaken

*(Children leave for Children's Church)*

**Sermon:** The Friendliness of Fishing

## **Apostles' Creed**

**☩ I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.  
And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven**

and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.  
**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.**

## Prayer of the Church

### Offering

*Currently, the offering plate will not be passed. There is a plate in the Narthex for you to place your offering. You may give to God and the work of His Church by mailing them in, but you can also give electronically by using the QR code below.*



### Offering Prayer

- L** Heavenly Father, You have generously blessed us in Christ,
- C** **and made us rich in gifts, spiritual and material.**
- L** We offer them back to You, O Father.
- C** **We trust you with everything.**
- L** Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C** **Amen**

## ✠ Holy Communion ✠

### To Our Guests Regarding Holy Communion:

Holy Communion is a gift Christ gives to His Church.

In it, He offers His true Body and Blood in and with the bread and wine.

***It is the gift of Himself!***

When received in faith, Holy Communion gives forgiveness, new life & salvation.

Those who receive the Lord's Supper at St. James Lutheran Church are baptized Christians, committed in their faith in Christ, who have been instructed in and believe these truths.

*(We run classes both for young people and adults – everyone welcome.)*

God bless you!



## Preface



## Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of  
pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is He who comes in the name  
of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## Lord's Prayer

### The Words of Our Lord

## Agnus Dei



Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world;  
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the  
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of



God, You take a - way the sin of the world;  
grant us peace, grant us peace.

## Distribution

### Distribution Hymn: You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

*Refrain*



You sat-is-fy the hun-gry heart With gift of fin-est wheat.  
Come give to us, O sav-ing Lord, The bread of life to eat.

1 As when the shep - herd calls his sheep, They know and  
2 With joy - ful lips we sing to You Our praise and  
3 Is not the cup we bless and share The blood of  
4 The mys - t'ry of Your pres - ence, Lord, No mor - tal  
5 You give Your - self to us, O Lord; Then self - less

heed his voice; So when You call Your  
grat - i - tude That You should count us  
Christ out - poured? Do not one cup, one  
tongue can tell: Whom all the world can -  
let us be, To serve each oth - er

*Refrain*

fam - 'ly, Lord, We fol - low and re - joice.  
wor - thy, Lord, To share this heav'n - ly food.  
loaf, de - clare Our one - ness in the Lord?  
not con - tain Comes in our hearts to dwell.  
in Your name In truth and char - i - ty.

## Thank the Lord

**C** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what  
He has done. Let ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re -  
joice and proud - ly bear His name. He re-calls His prom-is-  
es and leads His peo - ple forth in joy with shouts of thanks -  
giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## Benediction

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you  
and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

**C** A - men.

## **Closing Hymn: You Are My King (Amazing Love)**

### *VERSE*

I'm forgiven because You were forsaken  
I'm accepted, You were condemned  
I'm alive and well, Your Spirit is within me  
Because You died and rose again

### *CHORUS*

Amazing love how can it be  
That You my King would die for me  
Amazing love I know it's true  
It's my joy to honor You  
In all I do I honor You  
(Repeat Verse and Chorus)

### *BRIDGE*

You are my King  
You are my King  
Jesus You are my King  
You are my King

Amazing love how can it be  
That You my King would die for me  
Amazing love I know it's true  
It's my joy to honor You (Repeat)

In all I do I honor You



Please join us outside after the 10am service for lemonade on the lawn!

## **NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**BUY A BIBLE FOR A PRESCHOOLER:** \$10 buys a Children's Bible! Would you like to help us fund this amazing project to kick start a young one's spiritual journey? And how awesome for you to encourage our incoming parents to read the Bible to their children. You can buy 1, 2 or 10! It's up to you how many you want to bless! To give, just pay at [stjlc.com/give](http://stjlc.com/give) and select the "Bibles-Preschool Fund" or you can place the form and cash/check directly in the offering plate in the narthex or send a check in an envelope and mail a check to us at: St. James Lutheran Church, 230 Second Ave. St. James, NY 11780. Thank you for blessing God's Littlest Children! ~ STJLC Young Family Ministry

**SUNDAY SCHOOL RESUMES AND CHURCH PICNIC:** Sunday school will resume on September 7<sup>th</sup> at the 10am service. Immediately following service there will be a picnic at Norway Hall. Hamburgers, hot dogs and drinks will be available. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share and your lawn chairs. There will be a bouncy house and the chance to dunk both Pastors in the dunk tank!

**MUSIC MINISTRY:** Music is an essential part of worship at St. James Lutheran Church, and there are many opportunities for musicians and singers of all ages to participate. Rehearsals will be resuming soon:

**Worship Band - Wednesday 9/3, 7:45pm-9pm**

**Chancel Chimes - Wednesday 9/10, 6:30pm-7:30 pm**

**King's Kids Choir (grades 3-8) - Sunday 9/14, 11:30am-12:15pm**

**COMING IN SEPTEMBER:** a new sermon series: **FAMILY MATTERS** (Who am I in my family?)

Sept. 7: "I am a lover."

Sept. 21: "I am a grower."

Sept. 28: "I am a coach."

Oct. 5: "I am a sex educator."

Oct. 12 "I am not a slave."

**MOMS BIBLE STUDY:** starts again on Tuesday, September 9th. Join us at 7:30pm in the Upper Room for a study on marriage.

**LADIES NIGHT OUT IS BACK:** Our September event is wine glass painting. Ladies, we will see you in the Parish Hall at 7:30pm on Friday, September 12th. Cost is \$5. First time attendees are free! RSVP via [stjlc.com/events](http://stjlc.com/events)

**FAMILY DINNER:** We are starting a new dinner club for Sunday school families! Our first Family Dinner is on Friday, September 19th at 6:00 pm in the Parish Hall. Cost is \$5 per person with a \$20 family cap. Bring your kids and join us for food & fellowship! RSVP via [stjlc.com/events](http://stjlc.com/events)

**PINTS & PARABLES:** is our Dad's group that starts right after Family Dinner! 7:30 pm in Pastor Neil's backyard. Join the Pastors for a beer, fire, and conversation.

**LUNCH AMONG FRIENDS (L.A.F.):** is a new monthly luncheon for church members and their friends who would like to get together to enjoy food, fellowship and fun with Pastor Neil and Carol. The cost is \$10 per person. The first Lunch Among Friends (L.A.F.) is September 24th at 12:30 pm in the Parish Hall. RSVP via [stjlc.com/events](http://stjlc.com/events) or by emailing [office@stjlc.com](mailto:office@stjlc.com)

**TEENS OF FAITH:** events will also be starting again in September! The combined middle and high school kick off event is Laser Tag on September 14th. RSVP to Pastor Conner. Middle school T.O.F. Youth Night is September 21st at 6:30 pm in the Parish Hall. High school T.O.F. Youth Night is September 28th at 6:30 pm in the Parish Hall. There will be games, snacks, and Bible time at both events! Pastor Conner is excited to see you there!

**GRIEFSHARE:** Our GriefShare class will begin on Wednesday SEPTEMBER 10TH in the Youth Room. Time of sessions is 10AM to Noon. This 13-week program encompasses a 30 minute video seminar where you will hear insights from recovery experts. A group discussion will follow to discuss grief-related issues while you are getting to know others who understand what you are going through. Through discussion you will receive comfort and support. You will gain personal recovery tips for navigating your grief and discover the 6 signs of healing through your personal workbook. The topics that are covered include the following: Your grief journey; sadness and loneliness; fear and anxiety; anger; regrets; grief and your relationships; questions for God and many more topics will be covered in this Christian based program helping you move forward from mourning to joy. Participants pay no fees for the materials used in the GriefShare program thanks to the generous grant given to us by Saint James Funeral Home. If you are interested in GriefShare, please contact Ed Spear. 631-873-6429

**HELP WANTED:** Paid Position - Church Cleaning Crew. Part time, flexible schedule, cleaning church and preschool , includes set up and general cleaning. Must be at least 16 years old, NYS working papers required. For more information contact Ed Spear 631-873-6429

**PRESCHOOL HUGGERS NEEDED:** Would you like to join the Sweetest Ministry in Town? Then consider being a Preschool HUGGER this September and October! What is a HUGGER? A hugger is an extra set of hands in the classroom during the first few weeks (mornings only) of preschool. Huggers come alongside the teachers and help settle our newest little 2 and 3 year old friends who might be missing their mommies and daddies. The program is flexible - you pick a morning(s) that works best for you! Contact Director Meredith Johansson at [meredithpreschool@stjlc.com](mailto:meredithpreschool@stjlc.com) or text 631-766-3142! It's a great day at Pre-K!

## **REMINDERS**

**SMITHTOWN FOOD PANTRY UPDATE:** The pantry has continued to be very busy during the month of July into August. In July, the pantry serviced 189 families! Thank you to all who have generously donated time, food and hygiene products! At this time, there is a need for hygiene products, soups, ravioli, granola bars, cereal and spam. Donations may be left in the Narthex RED bin. Monetary donations can be sent directly to the Smithtown Emergency Food Pantry, PO BOX 1663, Smithtown, NY 11787. The pantry will continue to be open Tuesday, Thursday and Saturdays from 10-1200. They will close on Saturday, August 30th. For the month of August, the pantry will be open Wednesday evenings 6-9 pm. Volunteers are needed to stock and hand out food. For more information, call Jeanne Harmer, 631-484-5203 or Liz Wagner, 631-862-7508. "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as Christ God forgave you." Ephesians 4:32

**OUR SAVIOR NEW AMERICAN SCHOOL:** is looking for a secondary Math teacher and secondary Science teacher for the upcoming academic year. If you or someone you know would be interested in this position, you can reach out to Principal Wil Stelzer by emailing him at [wil.stelzer@osnas.org](mailto:wil.stelzer@osnas.org) or by calling the school at 631-588-2757.

**SIGHTS & SOUNDS OF LANCASTER PA:** Join us as we journey back in time, to experience the show NOAH at the Sight and Sound theatre in Lancaster, PA on October 1st and 2nd. We will be going by coach motor bus and sightseeing the Amish countryside, a movie presentation of JACOB, the show NOAH and more. Accommodations have been made for one night at the Heritage Inn and breakfast/dinner, taxes and gratuities, all admissions are included. All this for only \$369 pp. If you are interested, please contact Sharon Haase at 631-241-6066. This will be a very exciting trip and is open to everyone. So Come Along and have a great time as we go back in time.

**GIVING WITH SUBSPLASH:** In order to ensure the most secure and seamless experience, we will be transitioning to a new giving platform. **We will be moving from Vanco to Subsplash.** This change will help us manage resources more effectively, at less cost, and



make it even easier for you to support the mission of our church. Visit [stjlc.com](http://stjlc.com) and click on the tab that says "Give" for full directions on how to make the switch! If you need assistance, please email Luann at [luann@stjlc.com](mailto:luann@stjlc.com) or call 631-584-5212. If needed, you may make an appointment for help!

**CHURCH OFFERINGS:** If you do not use our electronic offering service, you may mail your church offering to the Church Office, 230 Second Ave, St. James, NY, 11780. Thank you for your continued support of our church!

**TO ORDER ALTAR FLOWERS:** Call Connie Marohn at 862-7123 after you have signed up for your requested date in the Altar Flower Book in the Narthex. Please use an Altar Guild envelope located in the Narthex to place your check for \$25.00 for *each* Bouquet payable to St. James Lutheran Church Flowers and the wording you wish printed in the bulletin. Place the envelope into the offering plate or mail to 230 Second Ave., NY 11780. Envelopes must be received by Monday for the subsequent weekend

## **Peek at the Week**

### **SUNDAY August 31**

8:30am Worship (Sanctuary)

10am Worship/Children's Church

### **MONDAY September 1**

1pm Piecemakers (Youth Room)

### **TUESDAY September 2**

7:30pm Mom's Group (Upper Room)

### **WEDNESDAY September 3**

7:45pm – 9pm Worship Band Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

### **THURSDAY September 4**

### **FRIDAY September 5**

8am Morning Prayer (Sanctuary)

### **SATURDAY September 6**

9am – 1pm Farmers Market (Big Parking Lot)

5:30pm Worship (Sanctuary)

### **SUNDAY September 7**

8:30am Worship (Sanctuary)

10am Family Worship/first day of Sunday School/Picnic at Norway Hall after 10am service

# St. James Lutheran Church

## FAMILY EVENTS

### Fall 2025

#### FOR MOMS:

##### Mom's Bible Study

7:30 pm @ the Church office  
Every Tuesday!  
*Discussion, friendship,  
& prayer.*

##### Ladies Night Out

7:30 pm in the Parish Hall  
Friday September 12<sup>th</sup>,  
October 3<sup>rd</sup>, November 14<sup>th</sup>

#### FAMILY DINNER:

September 19<sup>th</sup>, October 17<sup>th</sup>, November 21<sup>st</sup>

6:00 - 7:30 pm in the Parish Hall / \$5 per person, \$20 family cap  
Food & community time with other families!  
*Men's group starts immediately after!*

#### FOR DADS:

##### Pints & Parables

7:30 pm • Pastor's Backyard  
Friday's after Family Dinner!  
Sept 19<sup>th</sup>, Oct 17<sup>th</sup>, Nov 21<sup>st</sup>

#### FAMILY CHURCH:

##### Sundays @ 10 am

Church Sanctuary  
Sunday School during church  
& Cafe afterwards.

RSVP for these events using the QR Code on the events tab at [stjlc.com](http://stjlc.com)

*St. James Lutheran Church*  
**ADULT EVENTS**  
*Fall 2025*

**THE CHOSEN:**

**Tuesdays**

7:00 pm in the Parish Hall

*Lessons from the life of Jesus!*

**Thursdays**

10 am - 12:00 pm in the Youth Room

*Lessons from the life of Jesus!*

**LUNCH AMONG FRIENDS (L.A.F.):**

**Wednesday, September 24th, October 22nd, November 19<sup>st</sup>**

12:30 pm in the Parish Hall / \$10 per person

RSVP using the QR code on the events tab at stjlc.com or by  
emailing: [office@stjlc.com](mailto:office@stjlc.com)

*Enjoy lunch, fellowship, fun with Pastor Neil and Carol!*

**LADIES NIGHT:**

**Ladies Night Out**

**7:30 pm in the Parish Hall**

**Friday, September 12<sup>th</sup>,**

**October 3<sup>rd</sup>, November 14<sup>th</sup>**

**EGGS, BACON, BIBLE:**

**Saturdays @ 8:00 am**

**Norway Hall**

*A Men's Group led by Pastor Neil.*