

May 5, 2024

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Easter  
Rev. Jonathan D. Meyer, Pastor  
Pastor Meyer-(979) 540-7973  
Our website – [www.trinity-stjames.org](http://www.trinity-stjames.org)

Color-WHITE [Holiness, innocence, and purity]  
Our email address – [lexington.fedor.lcms@gmail.com](mailto:lexington.fedor.lcms@gmail.com)  
Church-(979) 773-2634

**HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH - FEDOR**

The Elder-in-Charge – Jerry Falke  
The Head Usher – Allan Urban  
The Altar Guild – Gloria Pillack, Jane Schimank

The Organist – Daniel Krause

**ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH - LEXINGTON**

The Elder-in-Charge – Guy Latimer  
The Acolyte – Koal Dockery  
The Head Usher – Wesley Boriack  
The Finance Board – Rodney Exner, Ferman Iselt, Patrick Jatzlau, Zachary Lay  
The Altar Guild – Suzanne Rudd, Jennifer Speer, Ella Yurk, Margie Yurk  
The Flowers – To the glory of God by Clyde & Sandra Lay in honor of their 40<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary today.

The Organist – Daniel Krause

**TO OUR VISITORS** - In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, we bid you welcome. May the Holy Spirit bless you, together with us, as we give our attention to the Word of God this morning. \*\*\* Please sign the GUEST REGISTER [*please also include your address*] in the NARTHEX as you leave the church.

**HOLY COMMUNION STATEMENT AND POLICY**: It is our expressed belief, confidence and joy that the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, present under the bread and wine, are distributed in the Lord’s Supper. All who commune at His altar are to be in complete confessional agreement with the other communicants. This practice of Closed Communion is an evangelical expression of our love for the communicant and for Christ’s Holy Supper. In accordance with the Word of God in 1 Corinthians 1:10; 11:27-29, we only permit members of this congregation, as well as members of fellow Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod congregations, to commune today. If your membership is with a different faith group, so that you have a belief which differs from our belief and confession on Holy Communion, then we kindly ask you in love to refrain from communing today and first speak with Pastor or an Elder. Members of our congregation who wish to commune are asked to sign the communion registration sheet in the Narthex.

**OUR WORSHIP THIS MORNING**

**THE ORDER OF HOLY COMMUNION - PAGE 15 IN THE FRONT OF THE HYMNAL.**

(Our visitors are asked to please read and honor our communion statement above.)

**SILENT PRAYER** upon entering the nave: Loving heavenly Father! I have come to hear Your Holy Word that makes the soul righteous. So then, put Your Holy Spirit in my heart that I may accept Your Gospel with awe and truly believe it. Amen.

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**SUMMARY OF TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS –  
THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**The Father Answers Our Prayers Because of Jesus** *“Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in My Name, He will give it to you.” (John 16:23)* To pray in Jesus’ Name is to pray as one who has been baptized. For it is in the water that He put His Name upon you, claiming you as His own, making you a child of God with access to the Father. By His incarnation and crucifixion, our Lord Jesus broke through the barrier of sin which separated us from God, opening a portal to the Father. To pray in Jesus’ Name is to pray with faith in Him as the one Mediator between God and men, Who gave Himself as a ransom for all. *(1 Timothy 2:1-6)* Like Moses in the wilderness, Jesus is our go-between and intercessor before God. He was lifted up for us on the cross in order to save and restore our fellowship with our heavenly Father. *(Numbers 21:4-9)* In Christ, we pray with confidence as dear children of God. *(lcms.org/lectionary-summaries)*

**A READING FROM THE LUTHERAN CONFESSIONS**

*Summary: Prayer is not an option for the baptized believers and Christ’s Church. It is a gift of God by which we are privileged, invited and even commanded to call upon God’s Name, asking for every good and gracious blessing He bestows according to His Word.*

*The Second Commandment: You shall not take the Name of the Lord, your God, in vain.* Now you understand what it means to take God’s Name in vain. In sum it means to 1) use His Name simply for purposes of falsehood, 2) to assert in God’s Name something that is not true, or, 3) to curse, swear, summon the devil, and, in short, to practice whatever wickedness one may.

Besides this you must also know how to use the God’s Name rightly. For when He says, *“You shall not take the Name of the Lord, your God, in vain,”* He wants us to understand at the same time that His Name is to be used properly. For His Name has been revealed and given to us so that it may be of constant use and profit. Since this commandment forbids using the Holy Name for falsehood or wickedness, we are, on the other hand, commanded to use His Name for truth and for all good. This commandment also applies to right teaching and to calling on His Name in trouble or praising and thanking Him in prosperity, and so on. All of this is summed up and commanded in Psalm 50:15, *“Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me.”* For all this is bringing God’s Name into the service of truth and using it in a blessed way. In this way His Name is hallowed, as we pray in the Lord’s Prayer. *(The Large Catechism; Explanation of the Second Commandment)*

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† IN THE NAME OF JESUS, OUR RISEN SAVIOR AND KING †

**PRE-SERVICE MUSIC**

**RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL**

**WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OPENING HYMN:** ♪ 458:1-5

**PREPATORY SERVICE OF CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION AND SERVICE OF THE WORD  
[PAGE 15 TO 23, FRONT OF HYMNAL]**

**INTROIT (ENTRANCE INTO THE SERVICE OF THE WORD)**

**PASTOR:** Declare with a shout of joy, proclaim to the end of the earth. Alleluia. That the Lord has redeemed His servant Jacob! Alleluia. Shout for joy to God, all the earth; sing the glory of His Name. I cried to Him with my mouth, and high praise was on my tongue. But truly God has listened; He has attended to the voice of my prayer. Blessed be God, because He has not rejected my prayer or removed His steadfast love from me! *(Isaiah 48:20b; Psalm 66:1-2, 17, 19-20)*

**CONGREGATION:** ♪ **Glory be to the Father....**

**COLLECT (PRAYER) OF THE DAY**

**P:** O Lord God, heavenly Father, Who, by Your Son promised to us that, whatever we ask in His Name, You will give to us: Preserve us, we implore You, in Your Word, and grant Your Holy Spirit to rule and guide us according

to Your will. Keep us from the tyranny of the devil, from false teaching and from improper worship, and preserve our body and being from every evil. Grant us Your blessing and peace, that we may always know Your gracious help, and through Christ honor and praise You as our gracious Father; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** ♪ Amen.

### **SCRIPTURE LESSONS: OLD TESTAMENT – NUMBERS 24:4-9**

**P:** <sup>24:4</sup> From Mount Hor Israel set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. And the people became impatient on the way. <sup>5</sup> And the people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food.” <sup>6</sup> Then the Lord sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. <sup>7</sup> And the people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned, for we have spoken against the Lord and against you. Pray to the Lord, that He take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. <sup>8</sup> And the Lord said to Moses, “Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live.” <sup>9</sup> So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

**P:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C:** Thanks be to God.

### **PSALM 107:1-9**

**P:** Oh give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever!

**C:** Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom He has redeemed from trouble and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

**P:** Some wandered in desert wastes, finding no way to a city to dwell in;

**C:** hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted within them.

**P:** Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and He delivered them from their distress.

**C:** He led them by a straight way till they reached a city to dwell in.

**P:** Let them thank the Lord for His steadfast love, for His wondrous works to the children of man!

**C:** For He satisfies the longing soul, and the hungry soul He fills with good things.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

### **EPISTLE (LETTER) LESSON – 1 TIMOTHY 2:1-6**

**P:** <sup>2:1</sup> First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, <sup>2</sup> for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. <sup>3</sup> This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, <sup>4</sup> Who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. <sup>5</sup> For there is one God, and there is one Mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> Who gave Himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time.

**P:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C:** Thanks be to God.

### **TRIPLE HALLELUJAH AND READING OF THE GOSPEL LESSON – JOHN 16:23-33**

**C:** ♪ Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

**P:** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 16<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C:** ♪ Glory be to Thee, O Lord!

**P:** [Jesus said:] <sup>16:23</sup> “In that day you will ask nothing of Me. Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in My Name, He will give it to you. <sup>24</sup> Until now you have asked nothing in My Name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.”

<sup>25</sup> “I have said these things to you in figures of speech. The hour is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figures of speech but will tell you plainly about the Father. <sup>26</sup> In that day you will ask in My Name, and I do not say to you that I will ask the Father on your behalf; <sup>27</sup> for the Father Himself loves you, because you have loved Me and have believed that I came from God. <sup>28</sup> I came from the Father and have come into the world, and now I am leaving the world and going to the Father.”

<sup>29</sup> His disciples said, “Ah, now You are speaking plainly and not using figurative speech! <sup>30</sup> Now we know that You know all things and do not need anyone to question You; this is why we believe that You came from God.”

<sup>31</sup> Jesus answered them, “Do you now believe? <sup>32</sup> Behold, the hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each to his own home, and will leave Me alone. Yet I am not alone, for the Father is with Me. <sup>33</sup> I have said these things to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”

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

**C:** ♪ Praise be to Thee, O Christ!

**NICENE CREED (CONFESSION OF FAITH) [PAGE 22]**

**HYMN OF THE DAY: ♪ 458:6-9**

**SERMON: IN JESUS' NAME WE PRAY TO THE FATHER – JOHN 16:23-33**

*Jesus said, “Ask [the Father in My Name]; and you will receive, that your joy may be full.” (Jn. 16:24) Amen.*

*Grace and peace to you in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.* If you’ve ever wondered why we pray to our heavenly Father in the Name of His only-begotten Son, our Savior, frequently ending our prayers, “in Jesus’ Name we pray. Amen,” our Gospel lesson for today answers that question. Just as Jesus has won us and brought us to our Father in heaven by His sin-atonement, sacrificial death for us on the cross, so has He opened the way for us to fervently seek our God in prayer, so that He answers us. (See Psalm 34:4) How good it is for our loving Lord to comfort us with the welcome news that He’s our certain access to our God and Father! Jesus does this so that we can be certain that the Father hears all our prayers prayed in His Name and for His sake.

Jesus’ words to His first-century disciples and to us, His followers today, are remarkable in that they grant us constant and complete, unbreakable and undying access to our heavenly Father. In Jesus you always have your Father’s ear! All of this is to say that your Holy Spirit-given, living faith in your Redeemer gives you everything from your Father above! Not only is your faith in Christ alone the means by which you’re saved unto God forever, it’s also the means by which you may “with confidence draw near to [God’s] throne of grace, [so] that [you] may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.” (Heb. 4:16)

This isn’t to say that we’re not to pray to our Lord Jesus Himself. We certainly can do so, and so we do! While most of our Church collects are addressed to God the Father, we pray, on occasion, to our Savior as well, as on the *Third Sunday in Advent*: “Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to bear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious invitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.” Our children pray at bedtime: “Jesus, Tender Shepherd, hear me. Bless Thy little lamb tonight. Through the darkness be Thou near me, keep me safe till morning light...” (M. Duncan) No doubt in your family or personal prayers you pray to your Savior too, and you’re right to do so! We even address the Holy Spirit in prayer since He’s fully God together with the Father and the Son, one God in three persons. We call upon the Spirit in the *Introit at Pentecost*: “Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the faithful, and kindle in us the fire of Your love.”

This goes to show that – no matter which person of the Holy Trinity we pray to – we pray to the entire Godhead by virtue of our God-given faith in our crucified, risen and glorified Savior. We do so confident that our fervent supplications are heard and answered by our one true God! This is especially the case as we pray the *Lord’s Prayer* together in Divine Worship, in the home amidst family and by ourselves. 20<sup>th</sup>-century Lutheran pastor, author and hymn writer Martin Franzmann noted that whenever and wherever we pray to God the Father – as in the *Lord’s Prayer* – we pray at the same time to God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.

16:23) The prayer our Lord taught us to pray is to be in our hearts and on our lips frequently, daily. We recently concluded our responsive *Catechism* readings with *Luther’s Morning and Evening Prayers*. Prior to praying these two prayers, Luther calls upon us to confess the *Apostles’ Creed* and to pray the *Lord’s Prayer*. If you’re not in the habit of doing this already, then I’d strongly encourage you to do so when you awake and before retiring to bed for the night.

As the “chief prayer” of the Christian faith; as our “model prayer” from which all other godly, devout prayers spring forth, the *Lord’s Prayer* “shows how we are to pray, to Whom, and for what we are to pray.” (*What Do Lutherans Believe?* W. & W. Snyder: 43) It’s the most excellent of prayers because it simply yet profoundly “expresses our every need of soul and body,” and “because it places the emphasis on our spiritual needs.” (*What Does the Bible Say?* O. Riess: 72)

The *Lord's Prayer* gives us good insight into Jesus' words "*Whatever you ask of the Father in My Name, He will give it to you.*" (Jn. 16:23) In the *Introduction or the Address of the Lord's Prayer*, "*We come before God humbly, yet confidently, calling Him Father – for we are His dear children in Christ.*" (WDLB?: 43) It's our calling upon Him and saying, "*Our Father, almighty Ruler over all things, we, Your beloved children by faith in Christ Jesus, pray to You.*" (WDTBS?: 72) Yes, we pray to God the Father, through His own dear Son, in the Spirit!

Having properly addressed the First Person of the Holy Trinity as our beloved Father, we go on to pray that His precious Name – which is forever hallowed or holy and sacred, would be so hallowed by us, in our midst. "*God's Name is kept holy,*" the *Small Catechism* teaches us, "*when the Word of God is taught in its truth and purity, and we, as the children of God, also lead holy lives according to it.*" (S.C., Luther: 1<sup>st</sup> Petition Explanation) So we're praying to the Father, "*Let us not dishonor You by false [religious] teaching and ungodly living, but help us to cling faithfully to Your pure and precious Word and to lead a life which is well-pleasing to You.*" (WDTBS?: 72) It's because of the faith and the forgiveness of sins that you have in Jesus your Savior that you can ask God and do ask Him to help you to always keep His Name holy. And He'll always do so for you!

In praying, "*Thy Kingdom come,*" (Mt. 6:10a) we're asking for God to usher His Kingdom into our midst. The *Small Catechism* informs us that "*God's Kingdom comes when our heavenly Father gives us His Holy Spirit, so that by His grace we believe His Holy Word and lead godly lives here in time and there in eternity.*" (S.C., Luther: 2<sup>nd</sup> Petition Expl.) So we're praying to God: "*Grant us steadfast faith in our Savior [so] that we may always remain members of Your Kingdom, the holy Christian Church. Fill our hearts with a passion for souls, and bless the work of all who preach and spread Your saving Word, that Your Kingdom may grow and prosper.*" (WDTBS?: 72)

The gist of this petition of the *Lord's Prayer*, then, is our fervent hope and desire that "*God's Kingdom of Power would continue to sustain and govern this world [so] that His Kingdom of Grace would remain with us and be expanded throughout the world, and [so] that He would hasten the coming of the Kingdom of Glory and receive us into it.*" (WDLB?: 43-44)

Alongside the coming of God's Kingdom, our Lord bids us ask the Father for His will to be done as well. "*Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven,*" (Mt. 6:10b) we pray next. God's good and gracious will is to break and hinder "*every evil plan and purpose of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature*" (S.C., Luther: 3<sup>rd</sup> Petition Expl.) – none of which care for God's Name or His Kingdom. It's like we're praying, "*Bring to nothing [O Father,] the schemes of the devil and other enemies who seek to rob us of our soul's salvation [in Jesus.] Help us in all things to obey You as gladly as do the angels in heaven. When You lead us in ways which seem dark and mysterious, grant that we may cheerfully submit our will to Yours.*" (WDTBS?: 72) "*And strengthen and keep 'us firm in [Your] Word and faith until we die.'*" (S.C., Luther: 3<sup>rd</sup> Petition Expl.)

Our Lord moves us next to pray to the Father for our daily bread or all our earthly needs, saying, "*Give us this day our daily bread.*" (Mt. 6:11) "*We pray in this petition that God would lead us to realize [that our daily bread comes from Him,] and to receive [it] with thanksgiving. Daily bread includes everything that has to do with the support and needs of the body....*" (S.C., Luther: 4<sup>th</sup> Petition Expl.) This is the same as praying, "*Give us each day [O God] the things that we need for this life, and make us truly grateful for them. Let us cast all our care upon You, for You care for us.*" (WDTBS?: 72; see also 1 Pet. 5:7) Just as we're more-than-content with God's gift of eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord (see Rom. 6:23), so are we "*content to have what we need for each day*" (WDLB?: 44) from our Father's bountiful hand.

As we're led to next pray to our heavenly Father, "*forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us,*" (Mt. 6:12) we know full-well that a major sin for which we all need divine forgiveness is the failure to pray; the refusal to pray to God in the first place. We're so often reluctant to pray because we imagine we're in such control of our lives, doing so well on our own, that we have no real need to pray. Or we simply neglect to do so or don't care to do so. How foolish and wrong we are to think that prayer to God is optional or even needless! We – and all for whom we pray – rely upon Him 100%, making prayer more crucial than ever for us! Which is why we cry out in this petition, "*Forgive us our many sins [O Lord] for Jesus our dear Savior's sake.*" Do not deny our prayer because of them. "*And, moved by Your great love for us, we promise readily and heartily to forgive all who wrong or grieve us.*" (WDTBS?: 72)

Our final two petitions from our Lord Jesus have us pray, "*and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.*" (Mt. 6:13) In this way we implore our Father to "*not let the devil and other enemies tempt us, and if for our own good You permit them to do so, make us strong and victorious [over them.] Also help us to remember that we must never willfully expose ourselves to temptation.*" And through it all, "*shield us from harm; and if in Your wisdom You place a cross [of suffering] on us, help us to bear it with Christian patience and trust, and finally take us to our home in heaven.*" (WDTBS?: 72)

The *Lord's Prayer* – like all other prayers – concludes with the word "Amen." "*This is the triumphant cry of faith, 'It shall be so!'*" (WDLB?: 44)

So justified by faith; so saved and loved are you by your heavenly Father that your Lord Jesus declares to you that you're blessed and well-able to pray to God directly through faith in His Name. You don't ever have to ask Jesus to, in turn, "*ask [or pray to] the Father on your behalf.*" (Jn. 16:26) Not when you're a son, a daughter of God – as you are! Not when God hears you as if you're Jesus Himself, since He definitely hears you this way! Amen. *The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Amen.*

## **OFFERTORY (ANTHEM PRECEEDING THE OFFERING OF TITHES) [PAGES 22-23]**

### **OFFERING**

#### **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**P:** In peace, let us pray to the Lord: **C: Lord, have mercy.**

For the Israel of God, His redeemed in Christ Jesus, that we may always declare, proclaim and utter this great salvation in speech and song to the very ends of the earth, let us pray to the Lord: **C: Lord, have mercy.**

For faith in the Lord Who saved us, and for His desire and power to sustain us through all trials and needs, let us pray to the Lord: **C: Lord, have mercy.**

For the Church's protection, for zeal for the House of God, and for peace through the promises of Christ, let us pray to the Lord: **C: Lord, have mercy.**

For those who serve us in Christ's Name and deliver to us the fruits of His redeeming work; and for those who will hear and heed His call to service in this generation, let us pray to the Lord: **C: Lord, have mercy.**

For those lost in the maze of unbelief, and for those who have wondered from the Church and the faith, that the Holy Spirit would use us to call them home to the Father, let us pray to the Lord: **C: Lord have mercy.**

For good leaders and government in this and every place; for police, emergency personnel and disaster-relief workers; and for the members of the armed forces who defend us, let us pray to the Lord: **C: Lord, have mercy.**

For our deliverance from the assaults of the devil, and our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger and need, let us pray to the Lord: **C: Lord have mercy.**

For those who suffer from hunger, homelessness, poverty, or unemployment, that God's great mercy and love would preserve and relieve them, let us pray to the Lord: **C: Lord have mercy.**

For the ill, the grieving and the dying, especially for \_\_\_\_\_; [*St. James: for Courtney Jenke at the death of her grandmother, Betty Jean Jenke; and for Edward Hoelscher at the passing of his mother, Ruth Wiederhold, that they would be comforted that their loved ones have died in Christ and will surely be raised by Him too, and*] for those we name in our hearts, that grace would sustain them in their hour of need, let us pray to the Lord: **C: Lord, have mercy.**

For continued favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord: **C: Lord, have mercy.**

For all who receive the Savior's body and blood in the Sacrament of the Altar today, that God would preserve them in repentance and saving faith, and that through this holy meal He would strengthen their witness to His love in their daily callings, let us pray to the Lord, **C: Lord, have mercy.**

Heavenly Father, You have attended to the voice of our prayers, for You have commanded us to pray and have promised to hear us. Let Your mercy comfort and sustain us in prayer, that we may heartily and fervently pray to You at all times and in all places, not doubting but trusting in Your promise; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C: Amen.**

## **SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR [PAGES 24-31]**

### **PROPER PREFACE FOR THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD**

**P:** It is truly good, right and salutary that we should in all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord; for He is the very Paschal Lamb Who was offered for us and has taken away the sins of the world; Who by His death has destroyed death and by His rising to life again has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious Name, evermore praising You and saying:

COMMUNION HYMNS: ♪ 314, 367 & 356

CLOSING HYMN: ♪ 190

† TO GOD ALONE BE THE GLORY †

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OUR ATTENDANCE FROM LAST SUNDAY

	Worship	Comm.	S.S. & B.C.	Offerings
Trinity	39		8	\$1,685.00
St. James	46		7 9	\$1,559.00

	Operating	Building	Missions	Cemetery	Week
Goal	25,313.00				
Actual	29,182.87		2,395.00		17
Last Week	1,660.00		25.00		

	Operating	Mission	Future Development	Total	Week
Goal	44,795.00			44,795.00	
Actual	36,683.25	20.00	50.00	36,753.25	17
Last Week	1,559.00			1,559.00	

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THIS WEEK

WEDNESDAY

8:00AM: Noodle making (St. James)...**PLEASE NOTE** we have changed from Tuesday to Wednesday

FRIDAY

\*Pastor's Day Off

NEXT SUNDAY

+Elders (Holy Trinity) following the service

\*Questioning of the Confirmands (at St. James)

+Elders (St. James) following the service

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION

+++**We remember in our prayers:...** at Holy Trinity... *Eldor Brade, Dorothy Schimank, Monroe Brade, Carolyn Nitsche;* at St. James... *Dolores Sullivan, Della Biehle, Bernice Lay, Lois Turner, Darvin Drosche, Lillie Mae Boettcher, Tom Kleinschmidt, Ronnie Iselt, Egor Raines, Genell Boettcher, David Roensch, Ernest Biehle, Charles Kaiser, Ginger Clifford, Walter Dube Jr., Lorine Lerche, Ruth Siegmund* [friend of St. James members], *JoAnne Meyer* [mother of Pastor Meyer], *Carole Heller* [mother of Juanita Clifford (St. James)], *Amber Brockenbush* [friend and relative of St. James members], and *all of our sick and shut-ins*.

\*\*\*We express our sympathy to **The Courtney Jenke Family** (St. James) on the death of their grandmother, Betty Jean Jenke, whom our Lord Jesus in His grace and mercy called out of this vale of tears unto Himself on Friday (4-26-24). Her funeral service was held Tuesday (4-30-24) at Ebenezer, Manheim. We pray that our Lord Jesus would be with and comfort the surviving family.

+++We express our sympathy to **The Edward Hoelscher Family** (St. James) on the death of his mother, Ruth Wiederhold, whom our Lord Jesus in His grace and mercy called out of this vale

of tears unto Himself on Sunday (4-28-24). Her funeral service was held Wednesday (5-1-24) at St. John, Dime Box. We pray that our Lord Jesus would be with and comfort the surviving family.

\*\*\***Ingathering Collection:** As part of the Ingathering for the TX District LWML Convention in Corpus Christi this summer, St. James LWML will be collecting toiletries for Rainbow Rooms, an emergency resource center that helps CPS case workers meet the critical needs of abused and neglected children. We are collecting full-size body wash, shampoo, and toothpaste for this purpose. Please place your items in the box in the narthex beginning in May. Thank you for helping these children!

+++**Rummage sale**...a Youth Group/Week Day School rummage sale last Saturday!!! We express our **THANKS** to all who donated and helped us to have a successful fundraiser!!!

\*\*\***PLEASE NOTE...change of date**...St. James Noodle Making: St. James LWML will be making noodles on Wednesday, May 8, beginning at 8:30am. All volunteers are welcome to help! We are also in need of Gold Medal flour donations. Please drop them off at the church or parish hall before May 8. If anyone would like to pre-order noodles, we are selling them for \$10 a pound. Please place your order(s) with either Lynetta Latimer or Sandra Lay. Thank you for your support!

+++**ST. JAMES...flower omitted last Sunday**...The Flower were placed: To the glory of God by Wesley & Connie Boriack in honor of their 35<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary this past Monday (29). Hope y'all had a Blessed One!

\*\*\***SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS**...St. Paul's First Epistle to the Corinthians is the subject of our Sunday morning Bible Class (Holy Trinity: 8-8:24AM; St. James:10-10:24AM). All are welcome to attend.

+++**Former Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home Assistant to Prepare For the Pastoral Ministry** ...Kurtis Hankemeier, who has served many in our community in his time at Phillip & Luckey, has received God's call to enter Concordia Seminary in St. Louis and to begin his studies toward becoming an ordained pastor in the LCMS. We wish Kurtis and his wife, Amanda, well as he begins his time at Concordia this summer, and we keep them both in our prayers.

\*\*\***St. James**...we have a variety of cards...check out our display of **Confirmation, Graduation and Mother's Day cards** on the table in the hallway by the offices...available individually or by the box...see either Ruth Meyer or Sandra Lay!

+++Devotional book available: Copies are available in the office of Ruth Meyer's new book, "**Truth Notes.**" This devotional is based on her past blog post and point to God's timeless truths in a changing world. Books are \$15 each. See either Sandra Lay or Ruth Meyer to purchase yours!

\*\*\***QUILTING UPDATE**...St. James LWML will be quilting every 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month from 9-12!!!

+++**BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK**...Holy Trinity-Rebecca Vences, 8; Katrinia Ender, 9;...St. James-Bailey Exner, today; Barrett Lerche, today; Brendan Patschke, 9; Gary Dube, 11.

\*\*\***ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK**...Holy Trinity-Jimmy & Sandra Falke, 9; Merrick & Amber Lovell, 11;...St. James-Clyde & Sandra Lay, today; Matthew & Ashley Clifford, 8.