

**Grow ... Go ... Gather**  
**September 6, 2020**

# Blessed

is the one whose transgression is forgiven,  
whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man  
against whom the Lord counts no iniquity,  
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

Psalm 32:1-2

Knowing-Jesus.com

**ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**(LCMS)**

2040 Oakwood Avenue N.E.  
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49505



**Pastor Glenn E. Schaeffer**

[glenn.schaeffer@stjamesgr.com](mailto:glenn.schaeffer@stjamesgr.com)

St. James Church Office: 363-7718

Secretary e-mail: [office@stjamesgr.com](mailto:office@stjamesgr.com)

Website: [www.stjamesgr.com](http://www.stjamesgr.com)

# The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

**Preservice Music/Call to Worship** *(Please turn off your wifi)*

## Welcome

*(Please wear your mask when singing)*

**The Opening Hymn: LSB 909, "Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation"**



1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ, our head and  
2 To this tem - ple, where we call You, Come, O Lord of  
3 Grant, we pray, to all Your faith - ful All the gifts they  
△ 4 Praise and hon - or to the Fa - ther, Praise and hon - or



cor - ner - stone, Cho - sen of the Lord and pre - cious,  
hosts, and stay; Come with all Your lov - ing - kind - ness,  
ask to gain; What they gain from You, for - ev - er  
to the Son, Praise and hon - or to the Spir - it,



Bind - ing all the Church in one; Ho - ly Zi - on's  
Hear Your peo - ple as they pray; And Your full - est  
With the bless - ed to re - tain; And here - af - ter  
Ev - er three and ev - er one: One in might and



help for - ev - er And our con - fi - dence a - lone.  
ben - e - dic - tion Shed with - in these walls to - day.  
in Your glo - ry Ev - er - more with You to reign.  
one in glo - ry While un - end - ing a - ges run!

*Tune and text: Public domain*

## The Invocation

**P:** In the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

## **The Confession of Sin and Declaration of God's Forgiveness (Psalm 32:1-7)**

P: Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

**C: Blessed is the man against whom the Lord counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.**

P: For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.

**C: For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

P: Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to you at a time when you may be found; surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not reach him.

**C: You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with shouts of deliverance.**

P: Indeed, our Lord forgives our transgressions against Him and covers our sin with the blood of His Son our Savior!

**C: Alleluia! Amen!**

**A Hymn of Confession/Forgiveness:** "Lord, I Need You" (Maher)

### **Verse 1**

Lord I come I confess  
Bowing here I find my rest  
And without You I fall apart  
You're the one that guides my heart

## **Chorus 1**

***Lord I need You oh I need You  
Ev'ry hour I need You  
My one defense my righteousness  
Oh God how I need You***

## **Verse 2**

Where sin runs deep Your grace is more  
Where grace is found is where You are  
And where You are Lord I am free  
Holiness is Christ in me **(Chorus 1)**

## **Bridge**

So teach my song to rise to You  
When temptation comes my way  
And when I cannot stand I'll fall on You  
Jesus You're my hope and stay

## **Chorus 2**

Lord I need You oh I need You  
Ev'ry hour I need You  
My one defense my righteousness  
Oh God how I need You  
My one defense my righteousness  
Oh God how I need You

CCLI Song # 5925687 Christy Nockels | Daniel Carson | Jesse Reeves | Kristian Stanfill | Matt Maher © 2011 sixsteps Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) Sweater Weather Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) Thankyou Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) Valley Of Songs Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) worshiptogether.com songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) *For use solely with the SongSelect® [Terms of Use](#). All rights reserved. [www.ccli.com](http://www.ccli.com) CCLI License # 20021974*

## **The Prayer of the Day**

**ALL: O God, from whom all good proceeds, grant to us, Your humble servants, Your holy inspiration, that we may set our minds on the things that are right and, by Your merciful guiding, accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns**

**with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**The Epistle Lesson:** Romans 13:1–10

<sup>1</sup>Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. <sup>2</sup>Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. <sup>3</sup>For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, <sup>4</sup>for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer. <sup>5</sup>Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. <sup>6</sup>For the same reason you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. <sup>7</sup>Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed. <sup>8</sup>Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup>The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." <sup>10</sup>Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

P: This is the Word of the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## **The Gospel Lesson: Matthew 18:1-20**

<sup>1</sup>At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" <sup>2</sup>And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them <sup>3</sup>and said, "Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. <sup>4</sup>Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>5</sup>"Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, <sup>6</sup>but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea. <sup>7</sup>"Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes! <sup>8</sup>And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire. <sup>9</sup>And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire. <sup>10</sup>"See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven. <sup>11</sup>For the Son of Man came to save the lost. <sup>12</sup>What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? <sup>13</sup>And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. <sup>14</sup>So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish. <sup>15</sup>"If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he

listens to you, you have gained your brother. <sup>16</sup>But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. <sup>17</sup>If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. <sup>18</sup>Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. <sup>19</sup>Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. <sup>20</sup>For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord

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

**The Sermon Hymn:** "How Blest Are They Whose Trespass" (Sung to the tune, LSB 835)

How blest are they whose trespass  
has freely been forgiven,  
whose sin is wholly covered  
before the sight of heaven.  
Blest they to whom Lord God  
does not impute their sin,  
who have an honest spirit,  
whose heart is true within.

While I kept guilty silence,  
my strength was spent with grief;  
Your hand was heavy on me,  
my soul found no relief.  
But when I owned my trespass,  
And did hide my sin,  
Then You forgave my guilt, LORD,  
Restored my life within.

So let the godly seek You  
in times when You are near;  
no whelming floods shall reach them,  
nor cause their hearts to fear.  
O Lord, You are my refuge,  
You are my hiding place,  
And You surround me always  
With songs of saving grace.

The sorrows of the wicked  
Increase from year to year,  
but those who trust the Lord God  
know love instead of fear.  
Then in the LORD be joyful,  
In song lift up your voice;  
Be glad in God, you righteous:  
Rejoice, O saints, rejoice.

Public Domain

**The Sermon:** Ancient Hymns of Faith for Today –  
Psalm 32:1-7

## **The Offering Prayer**

## **The Prayer of the Church & the Lord's Prayer**

**☩ Our Father who art in heaven,  
hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come,  
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;  
give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive  
those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and  
the glory forever and ever. Amen.**



## **A Hymn: "By Faith" (Getty/Townend)**

### **Verse 1**

By faith we see the hand of God  
In the light of creation's grand design  
In the lives of those who prove His faithfulness  
Who walk by faith and not by sight

### **Verse 2**

By faith our fathers roamed the earth  
With the pow'r of His promise in their hearts  
Of a holy city built by God's own hand  
A place where peace and justice reign

### **Chorus**

***We will stand as children of the promise  
We will fix our eyes on Him our soul's reward  
Till the race is finished and the work is done  
We'll walk by faith and not by sight***

### **Verse 3**

By faith the prophets saw a day  
When the longed-for Messiah would appear  
With the pow'r to break the chains of sin and death  
And rise triumphant from the grave

### **Verse 4**

By faith the church was called to go  
In the pow'r of the Spirit to the lost  
To deliver captives and to preach good news  
In ev'ry corner of the earth **(Chorus)**

### **Verse 5**

By faith the mountain shall be moved  
And the pow'r of the gospel shall prevail  
For we know in Christ all things are possible  
For all who call upon His name **(Chorus)**

# Announcements and Blessing of Online Worshippers

## ✠ The Service of Holy Communion ✠

### A Hymn: LSB 635 "O Gracious Lord, I Firmly Am Believing"



1 O gra - cious Lord, I firm - ly am be - liev - ing  
 2 Lord, I have sinned, a thou - sand times of - fend - ing;  
 3 You see my sin yet seat me at Your ta - ble;  
 4 O Lamb of God, my faith - ful, lov - ing Sav - ior,  
 5 Heav - en - ly Bread, my life and ben - e - dic - tion,



Your bound - less love will bless each faith - ful soul,  
 My thank - less thoughts and words and deeds e - raise,  
 Lord, as a guest, I sure - ly am the least:  
 You I em - brace in faith and ho - ly love;  
 This cup You give can take a - way each ill.



As from this al - tar we are here re - ceiv - ing  
 To me Your hand of mer - cy now ex - tend - ing,  
 Un - clean, un - fit, of wor - thy deeds un - a - ble—  
 Grant me the strength to show by my be - hav - ior  
 Come and re - lieve my soul from all af - flic - tion;



Your bod - y and Your blood to make us whole,  
 O God, my Sav - ior, I im - plore Your grace,  
 My heart pre - pare for this most ho - ly feast,  
 A life now hid - den in Your reign a - bove,  
 Calm ev - 'ry sigh un - til my heart is still,



Your bod - y and Your blood to make us whole.  
 O God, my Sav - ior, I im - plore Your grace.  
 My heart pre - pare for this most ho - ly feast.  
 A life now hid - den in Your reign a - bove.  
 Calm ev - 'ry sigh un - til my heart is still.

*Text: © 2004 Stephen P. Starke, admin. Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002553*

# The Word of Institution

## The Distribution of the Jesus' Body and Blood for Our Forgiveness

### A Post-Communion Prayer

### The Benediction

P: May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. (Romans 15:5-6)

**C: Amen.**

### The Closing Hymn: LSB 921 "On What Has Now Been Sown"



1 On what has now been sown Thy bless - ing, Lord, be - stow;  
2 To Thee our wants are known, From Thee are all our pow'rs;  
3 O grant that each of us, Now met be - fore Thee here,



The pow'r is Thine a - lone To make it sprout and grow. Do Thou  
Ac - cept what is Thine own And par - don what is ours. Our prais -  
May meet to - geth - er thus When Thou and Thine ap - pear And fol -



in grace the har - vest raise, And Thou a - lone shalt have the praise!  
es, Lord, and prayers re - ceive, And to Thy Word a bless - ing give.  
low Thee to heav'n, our home. E'en so, a - men, Lord Je - sus, come!

*Text and tune: Public domain*

# COMMUNION

## What do I do?



The Lord's Supper is celebrated at St. James Lutheran Church in the confession and glad confidence that, as Jesus says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our relationship with Him and one another.

Our Lord invites to His table those who:

- trust His words,
- repent of all sin,
- and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their spiritual harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed in this church, *any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, unrepentant of sin, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor or deacon.*

If you are unsure about receiving Holy Communion but desire to receive a blessing, we invite you to come forward at the time of Holy Communion to receive a blessing from Pastor Schaeffer. We ask that you cross your arms over your chest so that he knows you are not partaking of Holy Communion but desirous of a blessing.

NOTE: For those whose diets restrict the intake of gluten or alcohol, gluten free wafers are available as well as non-alcoholic wine. As Pastor Schaeffer is distributing the wafer, let him know you prefer a gluten free wafer. For those who require non-alcoholic wine, please take the purple foil individual cup as the deacon passes by you with the individual cup tray.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Events of the Week: September 6 - 13, 2020

- TODAY:** 9:30 a.m. Communion Worship service at St. James and service on Facebook Live  
11:00 a.m. Bible study on Facebook Live
- Monday:** **The Office is closed**  
10:00 a.m. Registration for **September 13**  
Worship begins
- Tuesday** 8:00 a.m. ISJ Academy begins
- Wednesday:** 10:00 a.m. Bible Study with Darrell  
12 Noon Devotion w/ Pastor on Facebook Live
- Friday:** 12:00 Noon Registration closes for phone-in  
Worship registration.
- Saturday:** 8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast  
6:00 p.m. Registration for Worship is closed
- Sunday:** 9:30 a.m. Worship at St. James (for registered members) and on Facebook Live  
11:00 a.m. Bible Study on Facebook Live

*Karen will be out of the office September 7<sup>th</sup> through the 14<sup>th</sup>.*

**Today's Deacons:** Bryan Ensing and Craig Popma

**September Altar Guild:** Melissa Ensing and Marjie Weiss

### FINANCIAL DISCIPLESHIP (August 30, 2020)

	<u>Offering</u>
General Fund	\$2,460.00
Roof Repair Fund	125.00
Plate Collection	860.21
<u>ISJ Academy</u>	<u>1,040.00</u>
Total	\$4,485.21



*We have a need for Altar Guild help for **November**. If you would like to oversee Holy Communion set-up and clean-up during this month, please contact Karen in the office.*

**Thank you to Sherry and Jennifer Schmidt for giving their service to God by taking care of the October Altar Guild duties.**

**It is important to register every week.**

1. Go to [bit.ly/stjamesgr](http://bit.ly/stjamesgr)
2. Click on the worship service you wish to attend. **Worship Service –September 13, 9:30 am**
3. Click on the green “**register**” box.
4. Put in the **number attending**.
5. Click on the orange “**register**” box.

Enter **your first name** and **ALL** the **first names** of those attending with you in the “first name” box.

Enter **only one last name, e-mail address and confirm e-mail address.**

6. Click on the orange “**register**” box.
7. Your ticket(s) will arrive in your e-mail inbox confirming your sign-up.





**Our first LWML Bible study and meeting will take place on NEXT Sunday, at 6:00pm, on ZOOM.** Marjie Weiss will be leading a Bible Study entitled "Held by His Word in Uncertain Times" written by Rev. Brian Noack. As we are led through 2 Timothy we will be reminded how the Apostle Paul prepared and encouraged the young pastor for what was to come, and, most importantly, how he could face these things with the confidence that Christ Jesus gives. Copies of this Bible study are available at [www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org). Copies will also be available to pick up at church.

If you would like to participate in our Bible Study and/or are unfamiliar with how Zoom works, please contact Grace Rosema, [grosema\\_school@yahoo.com](mailto:grosema_school@yahoo.com) or 616-822-3625 (leave a message and she will call you back.)

**Mites:** We thank you for your continued support. Women's Witness and Mercy Asia, Mission Central - \$100,000 - is one of our mission grant recipients. Asia is a harvest field ripe for the Gospel. Lutheran Women in Mission realize that our grants to missionaries bring God's Word to a dying world. Asia is predominantly secular, with Buddhist, Muslim, Hindu, and other false religions. Mission Central provides needed supplies to support the work of 10 women missionaries, some of whom have husbands and families working with them, while others work with a team or alone. For more information, go to [www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org).

**Please keep saving your mites.** If you are ready to turn them in, please put them in the mite box located in the church entryway when you attend church on Sunday, or mail a check to Rie Wiles, our St. James LWML treasurer, or call Grace Rosema to make arrangements to have them picked up from your home. Thank you.

## Church Cleaning for Worship Services



In order to maintain the church in a clean and safe condition for our worship services, the following cleaning methods are being used:

- All pews designated for seating are sprayed and wiped with an anti-bacterial solution.
- Door handles, door plates, and light switches are wiped down with a bleach solution recommended by the CDC guide lines.
- The entire main floor bathroom near the coat room is washed down and disinfected with the bleach solution. This includes the sink, faucet handles, toilet, handicap bars, baseboards, floor, waste basket and paper towel holder.
- The tables in the entryway with the reading materials are wiped down with anti-bacterial disinfecting wiping towels.
- The tables in the narthex are wiped down with anti-bacterial disinfecting wiping towels.

It is important that members remain in the designated safe area in the church at this time which are identified with the signs. If other areas of the church are opened for use, appropriate cleaning practices will be implemented.

**PLEASE NOTE: Before you leave your pew after worship, please put your kneeler down indicating what pews were used during worship. Thank you!**

