



**St. James Lutheran Church  
2040 Oakwood Ave NE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49505**

*We Grow, We Go, We Gather*

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**Pastor:** Rev. Dr. Glenn E. Schaeffer  
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grow up to sal- | vation – \*  
if indeed you have tasted that the | Lord is good.

**Kyrie**

*LSB 152*

**This Is the Feast**

*LSB 155*

**Salutation and Collect of the Day**

**The First Reading**

*Acts 4:32–35*

<sup>32</sup>The full number of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things that belonged to him was his own, but they had everything in common. <sup>33</sup>And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. <sup>34</sup>There was not a needy person among them, for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold <sup>35</sup>and laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

**The Second Reading**

*1 John 1:1 – 2:2*

<sup>1</sup>That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life – <sup>2</sup>the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us – <sup>3</sup>that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete. <sup>5</sup>This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup>If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. <sup>7</sup>But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. <sup>8</sup>If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup>If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup>If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. <sup>11</sup>My little children, I am writing these things to you so

that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. <sup>2</sup>He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Alleluia and Verse**

*LSB 156*

**The Holy Gospel**

*John 20:19–31*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>19</sup>On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." <sup>20</sup>When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." <sup>22</sup>And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld." <sup>24</sup>Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe." <sup>26</sup>Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>27</sup>Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe." <sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup>Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." <sup>30</sup>Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; <sup>31</sup>but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

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

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

## Nicene Creed

**Hymn of the Day:** 470 "O Sons and Daughters of the King"

### Sermon

**Offering** (During the offering we will sing, "Christ is Risen, He is Risen, Indeed"  
(Getty)

### Verse 1

How can it be the One who died  
Has borne our sin through sacrifice  
To conquer every sting of death  
Sing sing hallelujah

### Verse 2

For joy awakes as dawning light  
When Christ's disciples lift their eyes  
Alive He stands their Friend and King  
Christ Christ He is risen

### Chorus

*Christ is risen He is risen indeed  
Oh sing hallelujah  
Join the chorus sing with the redeemed  
Christ is risen He is risen indeed*

### Verse 3

Where doubt and darkness once had been  
They saw Him and their hearts believed  
But blessed are those who have not seen  
Yet sing hallelujah

### Verse 4

Once bound by fear now bold in faith  
They preached the truth and power of grace  
And pouring out their lives they gained  
Life life everlasting (*Chorus*)

## Verse 5

The power that raised Him from the grave  
Now works in us to powerfully save  
He frees our hearts to live His grace  
Go tell of His goodness (*Chorus 2Xs*)

## Ending

He's alive He's alive  
Heaven's gates are opened wide  
He's alive He's alive  
Now in heaven glorified (*2Xs*)

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## Prayer of the Church and the Lord's Prayer

**Hymn:** LSB 490 "Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won"

### Announcements and Dismissal for Online Worshippers

<b>Preface</b>	<i>LSB 160</i>
<b>Proper Preface (Full)</b>	
<b>Sanctus</b>	<i>LSB 161</i>
<b>Prayer of Thanksgiving</b>	
<b>The Words of Our Lord</b>	
<b>Pax Domini</b>	<i>LSB 163</i>
<b>Agnus Dei</b>	
<b>Distribution</b>	
<b>Thank the Lord</b>	<i>LSB 164</i>
<b>Post-Communion Collect</b>	
<b>Benediction</b>	<i>LSB 166</i>
<b>Hymn to Depart: 475 "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing"</b>	

## This Week at St. James

**Today (4/)** ..... Gizmo on FB – 8:00 AM  
**Communion Service** (Mites Sunday) - **9:30 AM**  
Bible Study – 11:00 AM

**Monday (4/8)** ..... **Communion Service - 4:15 PM**

**Wednesday (4/10)** ..... Darrell Bible Study – 10:00 AM

**Thursday (4/11)** ..... Dorcas Meeting -1:00 PM  
Adult Bells – 6:00 PM  
Adult Choir – 7:15 PM

**Friday (4/12)** ..... St. James Retreat – 7:00 PM

**Saturday (4/13)** ..... St James Retreat – 9:00 AM

**Sunday (4/14)**..... Gizmo on FB – 8:00 AM  
**Worship Service - 9:30 AM**  
Bible Study – 11:00 AM  
Friends In Faith – 11:00 AM

## Looking Ahead

### Serving Today (4/7)

Officiant ..... Pastor Glenn Schaeffer  
Lector ..... Cherie Hood  
Organist ..... Beth McKay  
Deacon(s) ..... Dave Hood / Jerry Talen  
Ushers ..... Dale and Grace Rosema / Caleb Butler  
Video/Sound/Recording ..... Nathan Urbanski/John & Marjie Weiss  
April Altar Guild..... Kim Urbanski / Carol Bifulco

### Serving Next Sunday (4/14)

Lector ..... Carol Bifulco  
Organist ..... Beth McKay  
Deacon(s) ..... Jerry Talen  
Ushers ..... Jim & Nancy Spears  
Video/Sound/Recording ..... Nathan Urbanski/John & Marjie Weiss  
April Altar Guild..... Kim Urbanski / Carol Bifulco

## Financial Discipleship: January 28 & 29, 2024

General Fund	\$2,471.00
<i>Needed each week for budget \$5,769.00 (-\$3,298.00)</i>	
TOTAL Contributions	\$2,471.00

### **Announcements**

**What is the difference between a Will and a Trust?** Does everyone need a Trust? What is a Medical Directive (“Living Will”) and how do you align your medical decision-making with your Lutheran faith? How do you develop a lifetime plan for giving? These are some of the topics that will be discussed at breakout sessions at the Grand Rapids Circuit Convocation on Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup> held at St. Matthew’s Lutheran Church. For more information about the Circuit Convocation and to register, please visit:

<https://immanuelgr.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/84/responses/new>. Mail in

Paper registration forms are available on the table in the lobby/narthex.

Childcare is available. A catered lunch will be served. Due to a generous Michigan District CEF grant, the registration and a catered lunch is FREE. If you can’t come for the whole day, come for part of the day! *The registration deadline is Wednesday, April 10th.*

**Mission Trip Rwanda 2024** – Pastor Schaeffer will be heading to Rwanda on Sunday afternoon, April 21 for a two-week mission trip during which he will lead a three-day seminar on The Lord’s Prayer. He will also lead a daylong session on the topic of tithing and will preach in several churches in various regions of Rwanda. If you would like to make a financial contribution to help offset the cost of the mission trip, please make a check payable to: St. James Lutheran Church and in the memo line write: “St. James’ Mission Fund.” If you make a cash donation, please print on the document: St. James’ Mission Fund.

**DROP-OFF DAYS for 2<sup>nd</sup> Best Sale:** Saturday, April 20 and 27. Bring your 2<sup>nd</sup> Best Sale items to the church from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. We cannot accept mattresses, box springs, analog (tube-type TVs), nursery furniture, medical items, or any items that are not usable or saleable. Donated clothing should be clean and gently used. Members of Friends in Faith will be present to unload your car and take everything into church for you! If items need to be brought to the church prior to the two Drop off dates, please contact Walt at 616-970-7407 or Dale Rosema at 616-262-1390. Volunteers are needed



on Sunday, April 28 for set up and for sorting the items. Volunteers are also needed on Monday and Tuesday for sorting and pricing and Thursday through Saturday to assist customers. Donate an hour or two of your time or enjoy the 9-4 days with everyone. A volunteer sign-up sheet will be by the office.

**Mark your calendar for the 16th Annual ISJ Golf Outing Fundraiser!** It's time to sign up! This year's ISJ Golf Outing Fundraiser will take place on June 1st at Arrowhead Golf Course in Lowell. It's time to assemble your team and get signed up! This will be an 18-hole shotgun start scramble format like in years past. Early bird registration for a foursome runs through April 12th and costs \$375. After April 12th the cost for a foursome cost is \$400. If you are not able to golf but interested in supporting the event you are able to do so through the same link/QR code. Proceeds from this event support the school by providing additional resources, technology devices, and supplies for the classroom. If you have questions please reach out to the school office at [isjoffice@mychristianschool.com](mailto:isjoffice@mychristianschool.com) or a school board member from the congregation.



**Issues As We Age: Beholding the Gospel in Life's Twilight** will be presented by Pastor Michael Salemink, Executive Director of Lutherans For Life at St. John's Lutheran Church Grand Haven, on Saturday, April 27, 8:30 am - 1:00 pm. Preregistration is required along with payment of \$15 per person which includes lunch, sent to St. John's before April 12. To register you can access the registration form and submit it via the QR on the poster on the Lutherans For Life of Michigan Facebook page, or email St. John's at: [office@stjohnsgrandhaven.com](mailto:office@stjohnsgrandhaven.com) or call 616-842-4510. You will also need to mail a check to St. John's Lutheran Church, 527 Taylor Ave, Grand Haven, MI 49417. If you have questions please contact Paula Cate at 951-675-0823 or [pcate2010@gmail.com](mailto:pcate2010@gmail.com).

**ISJ Dine and Donate** On April 16<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 pm-8:00 pm at Panera on 2044 Celebration Drive NE, Grand Rapids, MI 20% of the sales will be donated.

**Having A Heart for Africa** – Calling all those who love to bake! The LWML would once again like to have a bake table at this Spring's Second Best Sale. If you would like to help raise funds for Rwandan mothers and babies, by baking, you can donate wrapped baked items. The dates for the sale are May 2-4, 2024.



**The LWML Grand Rapids Zone Spring Rally, "Look and See" will take place on May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at St. Mark Lutheran Church in Kentwood.** Registration and breakfast begin at 8:45 am and the rally runs until Noon. Registration fee - \$10.00. Presenter – Danielle Bult Executive Director of "Love INC". Danielle will speak to us on poverty,



homelessness, people in need in our area and how we can help. **Ingathering:** Personal Care Items to be given to The Image – deodorant toothpaste, toothbrushes feminine care products, diapers, shampoo.

**Knit /Crocheted Together in Love** anyone ages 13 and up is welcome to join the next get-together on Sunday, April 21, 2024, from 11:45 to 2:00 pm. Need more information, please see the bulletin board outside the coat room or see Grace Rosema.

## A Statement on Holy Communion

**We rejoice in the celebration of the LORD'S Supper** as the Lord Jesus comes to us in a very personal manner, giving to us His true Body and Blood in, with, and under the bread and wine in this sacred meal. St. Paul writes, *"A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself."* (1 Corinthians 11:28-29) It is out of love and care for every individual who comes to the Lord's Supper that we ask those who are not instructed in the faith and/or doubt the presence of the Body and Blood of Jesus in this Sacrament to refrain from attending the Lord's Supper.

Members of Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod congregations (and sister confessional Lutheran Church bodies), who:

- Repent of their sin;
- Believe in Jesus as their Savior;
- Trust that they are receiving, not only bread and wine but also the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ in the Lord's Supper for the forgiveness of their sins; and
- Intend, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to live as forgiven sinners resisting the devil, saying no to sinful desires, and walking in the newness of life;

are invited to partake of this Holy Meal with us. We request that ALL guests who desire to commune, kindly speak to the Pastor before the service.

If you prefer to come forward for a blessing at the time of Holy Communion, please do so. We ask that you cross your arms over your chest so that the Pastor knows you want to receive a blessing.

**NOTE:** We provide gluten-free communion host and non-alcoholic grape juice. Just let the Pastor and/or the assistants know when you come for Holy Communion.