



BAPTISM OF OUR LORD
JANUARY 11, 2015

Welcome to St. James/Santiago Apóstol Lutheran Church

We're glad you're here! Our mission is to help you grow in your relationship with God and with all of God's people. Our worship services are designed to gather us as God's people, to hear God's Word, receive Jesus in bread and wine, and join us with God's people of all times and places. We pray that you will be blessed and encouraged by worshiping here. No matter who you are, God knows you and God loves you. If you are a visitor or guest, we warmly invite you to join our faith community. If you want to know more, please speak to our pastors or a member of our Steering Committee. Below is some information you may find helpful during and after worship.

Children and their families are vital to our life and ministry at St. James/Santiago Apóstol. Children are always welcome in worship. In the cry of a baby, or the fussiness of a toddler, we hear a new voice that speaks to God, reminding us that children are a blessing and a joy. If children ever need a break from worship, we have a nursery in the front hallway by the front doors.

Holy Communion. All God's children are welcome at the table of the Lord. God loves you, and welcomes you to the Lord's Supper, whether you are a new Christian, a returning one, or someone who is exploring who and what God might mean in your life. Please don't hesitate to come forward and share in the meal with us: there is room for everyone, especially for YOU.

Please come forward at the direction of the ushers. We serve it two ways, either by intinction or by individual cups. For Communion by intinction, you will receive a piece of bread or wafer, and dip the bread or wafer in a common cup of wine (red) or grape juice (white). Instead of dipping the bread, you also have the option to eat, and then drink from a common cup.

For individual cup Communion, you will receive a piece of bread to eat, and then choose a cup to drink containing wine (red) or grape juice (white). We offer the common cup as well. We also have gluten-free wafers for those with dietary restrictions. Children who do not yet commune and anyone who does not wish to receive Communion are invited to come forward for a blessing. If you desire a blessing, please ask the pastor for one, or simply cross your arms over your chest to indicate that you would like a blessing instead of bread and wine. Please feel free to use the altar rail for prayer after receiving the blessing or Holy Communion.

Offerings. We glorify God in our giving. Our offering is an act of worship that makes ministry possible. The offering at this service will support St. James/Santiago Apóstol Lutheran Church and its outreach ministries in this neighborhood of Oak Forest/Garden Oaks/North Houston. A portion also goes to our national church body for mission and ministry around the world.

Restrooms are located in the front hallway by the front doors.

Learning Hour/Fellowship Time. During the time between our worship services, you are invited to gather in the Fellowship Hall for coffee, juice, hospitality and fellowship. We also offer Learning Groups for adults and children, so please ask anyone how to join a class or small group at any time.

If you ever need a Pastor, both Pastor Arthur (713.725.6760) and Vicar Aura (608.469.0692) prefer that you call them directly on their cell phones. If you know of someone who is scheduled for surgery or is in the hospital, please let us know. If there is an emergency, if you would like a pastoral visit at home, or if you simply have questions about life, faith, or getting more involved, calling us directly on our cell phones is always the best way to reach us.

**BAPTISM OF OUR LORD
JANUARY 11, 2015
10:00 A.M.**

Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) – Setting Nine
P = Presiding Minister, A = Assisting Minister, C = Congregation

GATHERING

Our re-creation in baptism is an image of the Genesis creation, where the Spirit/wind moved over the waters. Both Mark's gospel and the story in Acts make clear that it is the Spirit's movement that distinguishes Jesus' baptism from John's. The Spirit has come upon us as upon Jesus and the Ephesians, calling us God's beloved children and setting us on Jesus' mission to re-create the world in the image of God's vision of justice and peace

The assembly stands. Silence is kept for reflection.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the Maker of heaven and earth, the Word made flesh, the Lord and giver of life.

C: Amen.

P: Let us come into the light of Christ, confessing our need for God's mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: God of peace,

C: we confess that we are not at peace— with others or with ourselves. We bring to you all that tears us apart: discord in our families, violence in our world, our own conflicted hearts. In your mercy, mend us. Reconnect us to one another and to you. Let peace reign over all the earth, through the Prince of peace, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

P: In the Word who has come to dwell with us, God has given us grace upon grace: forgiveness that is stronger than our sins, love that can heal every broken heart.

Hear this word of God's pardon and peace: in the name of + Jesus our Savior, you are free from all your sins. Rise, shine, for your light has come.

C: Amen.



C:

Thy Strong Word



1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; at thy
 2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, dark as
 3 Thy strong Word be - speaks us righ - teous; bright with
 4 From the cross thy wis - dom shin - ing break - eth



speak - ing it was done. For cre - at - ed light we
 night and deep as death, broke the light of thy sal -
 thine own ho - li - ness, glo - rious now, we press toward
 forth in con - qu'ring might; from the cross for - ev - er



thank thee, while thine or - dered sea - sons run.
 va - tion, breathed thine own life - breath - ing breath.
 glo - ry, and our lives our hopes con - fess.
 beam - eth all thy bright re - deem - ing light.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise to thee who light dost send!



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
 and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE:
C:

ELWp.196

Refrain

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

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be

peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and

hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain

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

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and join in the hymn of

all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to

God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain

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, al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

P: Holy God, creator of light and giver of goodness, your voice moves over the waters. Immerse us in your grace, and transform us by your Spirit, that we may follow after your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Please be seated for the readings.

WORD

FIRST READING: Genesis 1:1–5

Out of chaos, God brings order. Out of the primeval darkness, God brings light. This familiar story was good news for the Israelites, who experienced much chaos in their history. It remains good news for any person living in the chaos and darkness of despair. God created and continues to create new life.

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

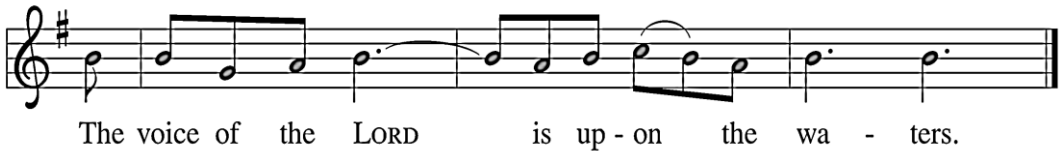
A: Word of God, Word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.



PSALM: Psalm 29

C:



Ascribe to the LORD, you gods,
ascribe to the LORD glo-ry and strength.

**Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name;
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**

The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders;
the LORD is upon the mighty waters.

**The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice;
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor. R**

The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees;
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

**the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**

The voice of the LORD
bursts forth in lightning flashes.

**The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh. R**

The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe
and strips the forests bare.

And in the temple of the LORD all are crying, "Glory!"

**The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.**

O LORD, give strength to your people;
give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace. R



SECOND READING: Acts 19:1-7

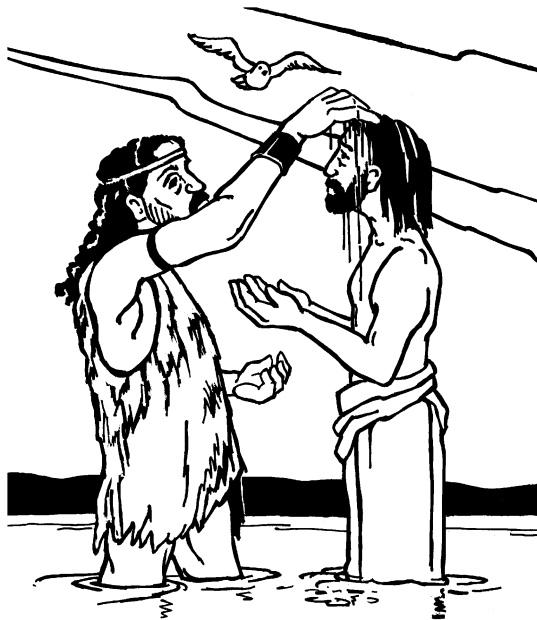
In Ephesus, Paul encounters people who had received John's baptism of repentance but had never heard of the Holy Spirit or of baptism in the name of Jesus. After Paul baptized them, the Holy Spirit came upon them and empowered them with gifts of the Spirit.

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?" They replied, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." Then he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They answered, "Into John's baptism." Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus." On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied — altogether there were about twelve of them.

A: Word of God, Word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand.



The congregation sings the Gospel Acclamation during the Gospel Procession.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

ELW p.198

C:



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



Repeat alleluia

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

The Gospel is announced.

GOSPEL: Mark 1:4–11

P: The holy gospel according to Mark.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Mark's gospel reports the story of Jesus' baptism with some irony: the one on whom the Spirit descends is himself the one who will baptize others with the Holy Spirit.

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

C:



Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

SERMON: *Pastor Arthur Murphy*



God, Whose Almighty Word



1 God, whose al - might - y word cha - os and dark - ness heard
2 Christ, who once came to bring, on your re - deem - ing wing,
3 Spir - it of truth and love, life - giv - ing, ho - ly dove,
4 Ho - ly and bless - ed three, glo - ri - ous Trin - i - ty,



and took their flight: hear us, we hum - bly pray, and where the
heal - ing and sight; health to the trou - bled mind, sight where il -
speed forth your flight; move on the wa - ter's face bear - ing the
Wis - dom, Love, Might: bound - less as o - cean's tide, roll - ing in



gos - pel day sheds not its glo - rious ray, let there be light.
lu - sions blind; oh, now to hu - man - kind let there be light.
lamp of grace, and in earth's dark - est place let there be light.
full - est pride, through the earth, far and wide, let there be light.



APOSTLES CREED:

P: Let us confess our faith, the faith in which we have been baptized:

C:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: Called to know, love, and follow you, O God, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

A: Loving God, we give you thanks for the common life we share in you. We grieve the loss of unity in Christ and beg your help in tearing down the walls of division within your church. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Your Spirit embraces all creation, giving life, growth, and beauty. Move us to receive all we touch as your gift, and to preserve your earth for the sake of all living things now and in the ages to come. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Have mercy, O God.

A: Pour the blessings of food and shelter on the poor of every land and on all those denied the abundance of creation. Let them taste your goodness and know the delight and freedom of your presence. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Speak healing and peace to the hearts of those who suffer in mind, body, or spirit. Come to the forgotten, those separated from home and family, those near death, and those who grieve. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: In the waters of baptism you claim us as beloved sons and daughters. Shower your joy on the newly baptized, those preparing for baptism, and those who will affirm their baptism. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: Loving God, we give thanks for the saints of every generation who followed your beloved Son through the waters of baptism and beckoned us to come along. Lord, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.

P: Trusting your love and healing, O God, we commend to you all for whom we pray, knowing you will hear and answer, through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

*The ministers and the congregation greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying
"Peace be with you." After the peace is shared, the congregation sits.*

MEAL

OFFERTORY:

ELW#576

C:

We All Are One in Mission



1 We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,
2 We all are called for ser - vice, to wit-ness in God's name.
3 Now let us be u - nit - ed, and let our song be heard.



our var-ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.
Our min-is-tries are dif - f'rent; our pur - pose is the same:
Now let us be a ves - sel for God's re - deem-ing Word.



A sin - gle great com - mis - sion com - pels us from a - bove
to touch the lives of oth - ers with God's sur - pris-ing grace,
We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,



to plan and work to - geth - er that all may know Christ's love.
so ev - 'ry folk and na - tion may feel God's warm em - brace.
our var-ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.

Please stand.

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray.

C: Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

THE SANCTUS

ELW p 200

C:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and

might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est, 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

C: **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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Come to the table of mercy, where the feast of life is spread.



We Are Baptized in Christ Jesus



1 We are bap-tized in Christ Je - sus, we are bap - tized in his death;
2 In the wa - ter and the wit-ness, in the break-ing of the bread,
3 Glo-ry be to God the Fa - ther, glo-ry be to Christ the Son,



that as Christ is raised vic - to - rious, we might live a brand new life.
in the wait - ing arms of Je - sus who is ris - en from the dead,
glo-ry to the Ho - ly Spir-it, ev - er three and ev - er one;



And if we have been u - nit - ed in a dread-ful death like his,
God has made a new be - gin-ning from the ash - es of our past;
as it was in the be - gin-ning, glo-ry now re-sounds a - gain



we will all be re - u - nit - ed, for he lives.
in the los - ing and the win - ning we hold fast.
in a song that has no end - ing. . . . A - men.

Please be seated and come forward at the direction of the ushers for communion.
All God's children are welcome at the table of the Lord. We serve communion two ways, either by intinction or by individual cups. For Communion by intinction, you will receive a piece of bread or wafer, and dip the bread or wafer in a common cup of wine (red) or grape juice (white). Instead of dipping the bread, you also have the option to eat, and then drink from a common cup. For individual cup Communion, you will receive a piece of bread to eat, and then choose a cup to drink containing wine (red) or grape juice (white). We offer the common cup as well. We also have gluten-free wafers for those with dietary restrictions. Children who do not yet commune and anyone who does not wish to receive Communion are invited to come forward for a blessing.

Please stand.

C:

Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let



ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joice and bear the name of Christ.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray.

C: We give you thanks, O God, that in this bread and cup of Christ's very life, you give us food for our journey. As you led the magi by a star, as you brought the holy family home again, guide us on the way unfolding before us. Wherever we go, may our lives proclaim good news of great joy in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

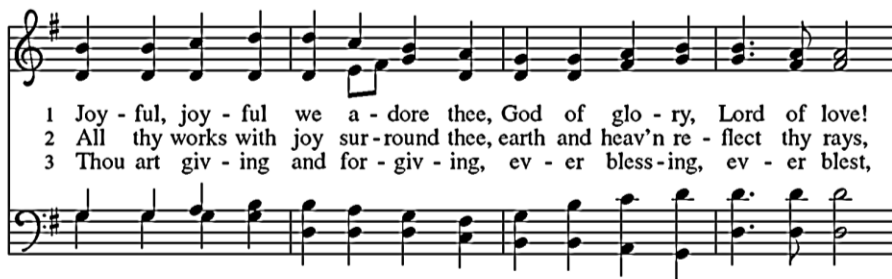
P: Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

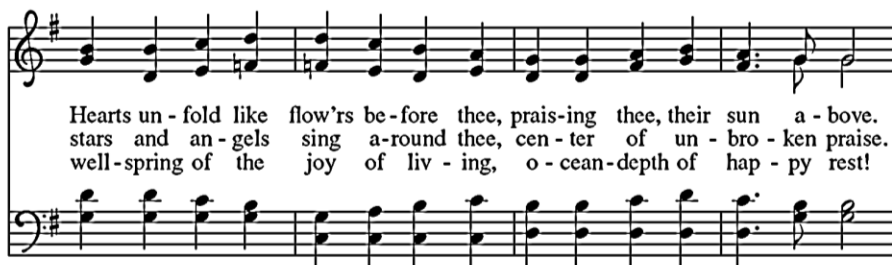


C:

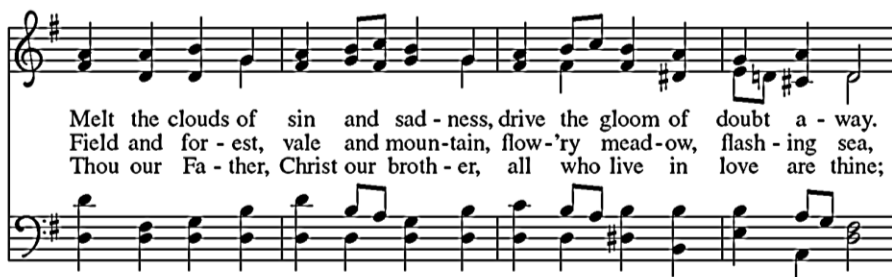
Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee



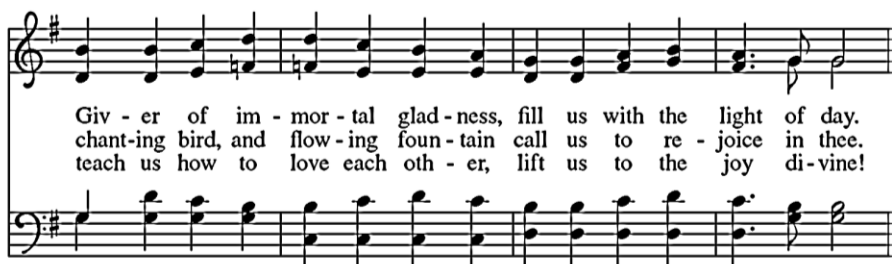
1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
 2 All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,
 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
 stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
 well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
 Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - 'ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
 Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
 chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.
 teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE
WELCOME, EVERYONE!

We welcome all our guests today. Please speak to the pastor if you have special concerns or wish to discuss becoming a member of this community by baptism, affirmation of baptism, or transfer of membership from another Christian congregation.

KEEP OUR FRIENDS & RELATIVES IN PRAYER

Sally Burgess
Charles Cernik
Orie Clark III
Grady Green
Pr. Fred de Oliveira
Charla Largent
John Largent
Margaret “Candy” Largent

Linda Bernice Martinez
Patricia Nash
Louise Richter
Kelly Simmons
Kimberly Tessier
Mic Tessier
Ginger Wilber

STEWARDSHIP CORNER	
ATTENDANCE AVERAGE	
FIRST SERVICE	
Jan. 4, 2015	32
TOTAL To DATE	32
SECOND	
Jan. 4, 2015	37
TOTAL To DATE	37
WORSHIP TOTAL:	69
PRAYER CIRCLE	
Jan. 7, 2015	7
AVERAGE TO DATE:	7
CONTRIBUTIONS	
Jan. 4, 2015	\$2,893.00
Total to Date	\$2,893.00

ASSISTING IN MINISTRY

Presiding Minister
Outreach Minister
Assisting Minister

Altar Care
Acolyte

Pastor Arthur Murphy
Vicar Aura M. Suárez,
Orie Clark III

Vicki Faulkner
Eliseo Gonzalez

Cantor
Organist
Usher
Teller

Crucifer

Meghan Garvin
Sergei Savitski
Robert Rivera
Steve Grimsley
Rose Rivera
Alex Saavedra

UPCOMING EVENTS

TODAY

Adult Bible Study resumes at the 11 AM Learning Hour. Today let's discuss Baptism!

SUN., FEB. 1

Consecration Sunday. On this Sunday we pledge our time, talents and treasures towards the ministries of St. James and the 2015 budget.

SUN., FEB. 8

11:00 A.M. – Bilingual worship service and Annual Congregational Meeting.

Please check out our new church website: www.stjames.ch



St James Church ELCA
Community Page about Gulf Coast Synod, ELCA

LIKE us on Facebook!