



# ST. JAMES

## LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Journal

March 2024

### *March Worship Services*

**Third Sunday of Lent, March 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Worship with Holy Communion at 11:00 am

**Wednesday Evening Lenten Worship Service**

March 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm (Soup & Sandwich Supper at 5:45 pm)

**Fourth Sunday of Lent, March 10<sup>th</sup>**

Worship at 11:00 am

**Wednesday Evening Lenten Worship Service**

March 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm (Soup & Sandwich Supper at 5:45 pm)

**Fifth Sunday of Lent, March 17<sup>th</sup>**

Worship with Holy Communion at 11:00 am

**Wednesday Evening Lenten Worship Service**

March 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm (Soup & Sandwich Supper at 5:45 pm)

**Palm Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup>**

Worship with Procession of Palms & Holy Communion at 11:00 am

**Maundy Thursday Evening Worship Service with Holy Communion**

March 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm

**Good Friday Evening Worship Tenebrae Service**

March 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm

**Easter Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup>**

Worship with Holy Communion at 10:00 am

Easter Breakfast & Fellowship at 9:00 am - 9:40 am

*There will be no Sunday School on Easter morning.*

Sunday Mornings

Coffee & Conversation with Pastor Fred at 9:15- 9:45 am

Sunday School at 9:45 am

## *A message from Pastor Fred...*

Grace and Peace to you,

As we continue on our journey in Lent, we look to Jesus while reflecting on our own lives. In reading over the Ten Commandments in the twentieth chapter of Exodus during our Lenten Wednesday Night Bible Study, our need for the grace and mercy of God was made very apparent. We may not be able to do everything perfectly, but God can still love us perfectly, and we can see that he does because of Christ crucified.

“For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.” 1 Corinthians 1:18

It may seem ridiculous as Paul details to the Corinthians, but because God loves us and gives us life through him, we have been called into something far beyond human comprehension. Because of Christ, we understand that God loves us more than we can imagine.

In this intricate predicament of being human, we find that we've been given a whole spectrum of feelings. We can feel joy and surprise. We can be afraid, which sometimes comes out as anger. We can feel disgust or contempt. These are all valid feelings. The way that God has made you does not limit you to going through life in a state of ignorant bliss. There is so much more of God's creation for you to witness than just the gleeful feelings.

In this season of Lent, we've been focusing on a feeling that some people like to avoid: sadness. In this, we're looking at a lesser-known, but vital, spiritual practice of communicating our grief with God. God doesn't expect you to just have positive feelings. God has equipped you to feel many things, and God knows your whole self. If you're sad about something, you can talk to God about it, and communicating that is a spiritual practice we call lament.

There are things in this world that are not in line with God's Kingdom. The difficulty this brings is something we can take to God. There are things happening that hurt God's children, our loved ones. This is something we can talk to God about. There are things we do that we wish we hadn't. This too is something we can bring up to God.

This season and spiritual practice can be difficult, but it isn't something you have to do alone. As a church, we are coming together on Wednesday nights to bring our laments to God, for God hears your laments and is with you in the hardest times.

We see Christ take all of the things that go against the Kingdom of God unto himself in the cross, and we grieve what humans have done to each other, what we have done to God's creation, and what we have done to God. But it isn't humans that get the final word. For the Word, the living Word, is Christ Jesus, and we see his eternal triumph at Easter. He rises from the death we subjected him to, from the sin he took on for all creation, and we find he brings us life through his everlasting love and mercy. This promise of Christ's love is for you, and while we grieve together in this season, we rest in his eternal mercy and grace for all of time. Thanks be to God.

Wishing you peace this season as we follow Christ, reflect on ourselves, and await Christ's coming in glory. Please feel free to join us in Bible Study, dinner, and worship on Wednesdays. I find this time to be spiritually filling, and it is a joy to do it with you.

In Christ's grace and mercy,

Pastor Fred

# Upcoming Events

**Lenten Bible Study led by Pastor Fred**  
Wednesdays, March 6, 13, & 20 at 5:00 pm

**Soup & Sandwich Supper following Bible Study at 5:45 pm**  
Volunteers are needed to provide soup, sandwiches, and dessert.  
Please sign up on the dinner list outside of the church office.

**Lenten Evening Worship Service**  
Wednesdays, March 6, 13, & 20 at 6:30 pm

**Service Choir: Wednesdays after Lenten Evening Worship (around 7:00 pm)**

**St. James Ringers Bell Practice: March 10, 17, & 24 after worship**

**Daylight Saving Time begins March 10<sup>th</sup>.**  
*Please remember to Spring Forward!*

**Church Council: Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm**

**Games & Tie Blankets: Monday, March 11<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm**

**Outreach Committee Meeting: Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm**

**WELCA/LMM will meet on Monday, March 25<sup>th</sup> for lunch at 1:00 pm**  
followed by the meetings. All women and men are invited to attend.

**Holy Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup>**  
**“Time in the Tomb” 4:00-5:00 pm**  
*No formal service. This will be a time of silent prayer.*

**The Imani Milele Children’s Choir of Uganda**  
Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm



## Easter Lilies

It's time to order Easter lilies for Easter Sunday. To order Easter lilies, please fill out the insert in the bulletin and place it in the offering plate or in the box on the secretary's desk with a check made payable to St. James. You may also email your order to [stjamesnewsinfo@gmail.com](mailto:stjamesnewsinfo@gmail.com) or call Kathy (803-507-7474) to place your order.  
***All orders are due in the church office by March 24<sup>th</sup>.***

# OUTREACH

Some needed supplies were recently provided to Leavelle-McCampbell Middle School and Jefferson Elementary School. Backpacks, socks, underwear, pants, hygiene items, glue sticks, snacks, shoes, and reusable water bottles were purchased using the funds collected during last summer's VBS.

Thank you!

St. James Lutheran Church,

Thank you so much for all of the donations for our students here at Jefferson! We greatly appreciate everything you were able to give.

Thank you!  
Ashley Cook, School Counselor



## ELCA Good Gifts

During Lent, there will be an opportunity to help support God's Global Barnyard, which supports the sustainable development ministries of ELCA World Hunger, which include training, education, and resources to help communities care for animals and create new market opportunities like starting a small business selling eggs, meat or dairy products. Your gifts support this comprehensive approach to animal husbandry.

**Donation jars will be located in the main hall and in the narthex. Please make checks payable to St. James and earmarked for "Good Gifts."**

## Outreach Donations:

During the month of March, the Outreach Committee is asking for donations of baby wipes, diapers (all sizes), children's socks, and children's underwear (sizes 2-8) for the Cumbee Center and Children's Place. Please put donations on the pew in the fellowship hall.





Ladies from WELCA made more blankets in February to donate to those in need of a warm blanket. They also made cold weather kits to place in Blessing Boxes in our community. All are invited to help make blankets on Monday, March 11<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm. No sewing skills are needed. Come enjoy the time and fellowship together.



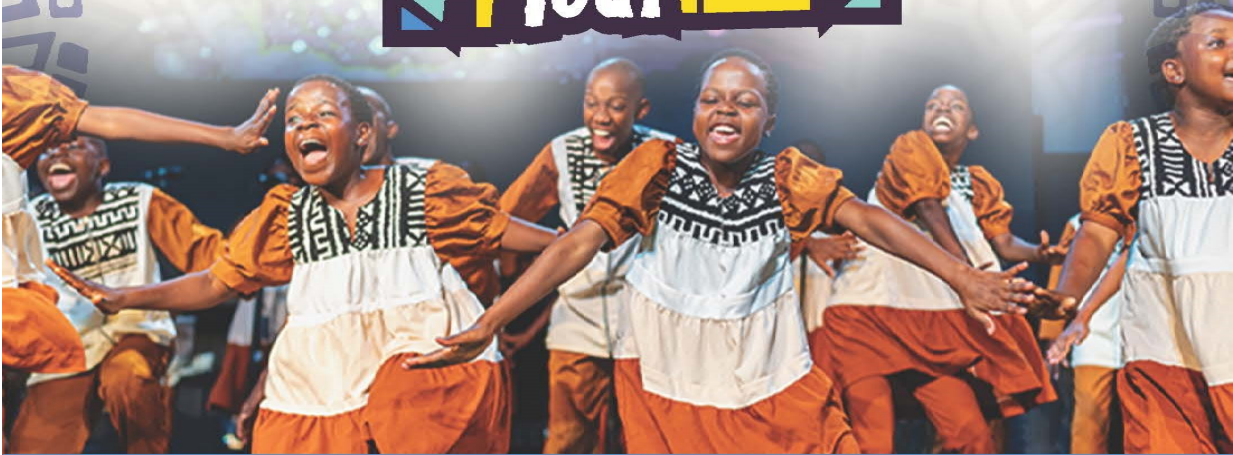
### Thrivent Choice Dollars

Thrivent members, please remember to direct your 2023 Thrivent Choice Dollars by March 31<sup>st</sup>. You may do so by calling 1-800-847-4836 or online at [thrivent.com](http://thrivent.com).



**Thanks** to the congregation for supporting the LCY in this year's Souper Bowl of Caring Collection! Strong support for the Kansas City Chiefs brought in \$717, and the San Francisco 49ers brought in \$197 on Souper Bowl Sunday. With additional undesignated donations, a total of \$960 was collected for local valley food ministries- Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Center, Hope Ministries of the Valley, and Mt. Salem Ministries.





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



# St. James Lutheran Church

Friday, April 19, 2024 at 7:00 pm

200 Laurel Drive, Graniteville, SC 29829

803-663-6809 [www.StJamesGraniteville.com](http://www.StJamesGraniteville.com)

Join the Imani Milele Choir as they sing, drum, dance, in spectacular display of hope, love and faith through an energetic and Immersive Praise and Worship Experience.

Enjoy this FREE CONCERT featuring uniquely crafted African Drum Routines.

*The Imani Milele Choir is a remarkable musical ensemble from Uganda. The name "Imani Milele" translates to "Everlasting Faith" in Swahili, reflecting the choir's mission to bring hope, love, and faith to the lives of Uganda's orphaned and vulnerable children.*

*Founded as a Christian organization, Imani Milele Children is dedicated to rescuing, educating, developing, and improving the lives of these children.*

*The choir's repertoire includes praise, worship, dance, and well-crafted drum routines, providing audiences with an immersive experience. Beyond the stage, the choir places a strong emphasis on education, ensuring that the children receive a well-rounded development.*

*Overall, the Imani Milele Choir stands as a beacon of hope, using the power of music, education, and cultural exchange to spread the love of Christ, uplift the lives of Uganda's children and inspire audiences worldwide.*

## Super Bowl Party Fun!

We had a great time at our first Super Bowl Watch Party at St. James! Special thanks to Charles Busbee for grilling the hamburgers and hotdogs and Andy Cone for cooking the BBQ. We also thank those that brought different sides and snacks to share!



### Super Bowl Game Winners

First Quarter Winner:  
Mycah Klinker

Second Quarter Winner:  
Angela Vandegrift

Third Quarter Winner:  
Angela Vandegrift

Super Bowl Champ Winner:  
Ronnie Johnson

Congratulations!!



### Please remember in your thoughts and prayers:

Noel Nichols, Ben Sharpe, Lisa Kirby, Robert Coleman, Tom Hair, John Allen Eidson (Cousin of Cathie Valentine & Mike Willis), George Brunson (Father-in-law of Sarah Swygert Brunson), Alison Ergle Berry (Cousin of Georganne Weeks), Kensley Napier (Daughter of Philip Napier- Pastor of Breezy Hill Baptist Church), Benny Hydrick (Friend of Tony Carroll), Libby Scott **Anchor:** Mary Ellen Johnson **Trinity:** Bobby Reece **Silver Bluff Grove:** Vicki Bolton

**May the Lord bless them with His healing presence and keep them in true faith. Amen.**

In order to keep our prayer list current, the prayer list will be updated at the beginning of each month.



**Offering Option** [www.stjamesgraniteville.com/giving/](http://www.stjamesgraniteville.com/giving/)

You can now give online on our website! You can give a onetime offering or set up a recurring offering. In the description box, please note where your offering should be directed. (for example, Current and Benevolence, Backpack, etc.)

# March Volunteer List

## Lay Readers & Lay Assistants

**March 3:** Gloria Sloan (Lay Reader & Lay Assistant)

**March 10:** Teddy Weeks (Lay Reader)

**March 17:** Ralph Abreo (Lay Reader & Lay Assistant)

**March 24:** Angela Vandegrift (Lay Reader & Lay Assistant)

**March 28 (Maundy Thursday):** Lang Entrekin (Lay Reader & Lay Assistant)

**March 31 (Easter):** Garrett Maroney (Lay Reader & Lay Assistant)

## Worship Team

**March 3:** (A) Dominic Price (C) Brayden Weed

**March 10:** (A) Justin Joiner (C) Brayden Joiner

**March 17:** (A) Kaylee Sharpe (C) Brayden Weed

**March 24:** (A) Zoe Ford (C) Spencer Johnson

**March 28 (Maundy Thursday):**

(A) Justin Joiner (C) Brayden Joiner

Stripping of the Altar: Dominic Price & Brayden Weed

**March 31 (Easter):**

Worship Team: Dominic Price, Brayden Weed,  
Justin Joiner, Brayden Joiner, & Spencer Johnson

## Altar Guild

**March 3, 10, & 17:** Sara Rutland & Helen Wood

**March 24, 28, & 31:** Patti Cutshall & Carol Horsley

**Ushers:** Mike Cutshall & Mike Willis

## Sound Technicians

**March 3:** Robbie Franklin

**March 10:** Lane Rogers

**March 17:** Robbie Franklin

**March 24:** Andy Cone

**March 28 (Maundy Thursday):** Lane Rogers

**March 29 (Good Friday):** Robbie Franklin

**March 31 (Easter):** Robbie Franklin & Andy Cone

## Greeters

**March 3:** Carol Horsley

**March 10, 17, 24, & 31:** Karmen Spletzer

## Altar Flowers

**March 31 (Easter):** Noel & Janice Nichols in memory of Noel's mother, Mary Nichols Hallman, and grandparents, Rev. & Mrs. E.W. Leslie, former pastor of St. James







*Happy Birthday*

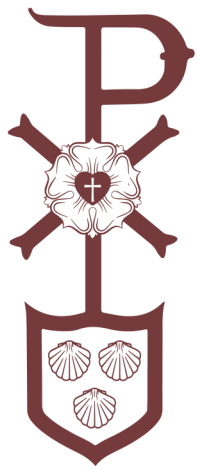
*Happy Anniversary*

Allison Youmans	3
Lanny Valentine	6
Cale Johnson	7
Tom Hair	9
Donald Hatcher	14
Alyssa Weed Morris	15
Caroline Tyler	18
Joe Knight	19
Donovan Moreno	26
Milton Rogers	28
Stephen Youmans	28
Emily Cobb	29
Beau Ford	30

Andy & Melissa Cone March 16
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**Daylight Saving Time begins March 10<sup>th</sup>.  
Please remember to Spring Forward!**



# ST. JAMES

## LUTHERAN CHURCH

200 Laurel Drive • Graniteville, SC 29829 • (803) 663-6809  
StJamesNewsInfo@gmail.com • StJamesGraniteville.com

*Pastor:* Rev. Fred Klinker

*President:* Lisa Bryant

*Director of Music/Organist:* Tonia Busbee

*Secretary:* Kathy Rogers

*Treasurer:* Caroline Andrews

*Newsletter Editor:* Kathy Rogers

*Newsletter Designer:* Tonia Busbee

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*Do this in  
remembrance  
of me.*

Share your good news and church events with your church family!  
Email the information to: [StJamesNewsInfo@gmail.com](mailto:StJamesNewsInfo@gmail.com)