

WEEKLY EVENTS

Tues: 7:00 PM Women's Bible Study

Wed: 8:20 AM Chapel
10:00 AM Bible Study
5:30 PM Catechesis Check-in
7:00 PM Advent Evening Prayer
8:00 PM Worship Choir

Sun: 8:00 AM Divine Service
9:15 AM Bible Study/ Catechesis/SS
10:30 AM Divine Service

SERVING TODAY

ELDERS: 9:30 AM

Harold Blanchette Dean Koosman
Bill Wickesberg Joe Pehl

USHERS: 9:30 AM

Paul Lindahl Derek Nikko



Organist:
Choir: 9:30

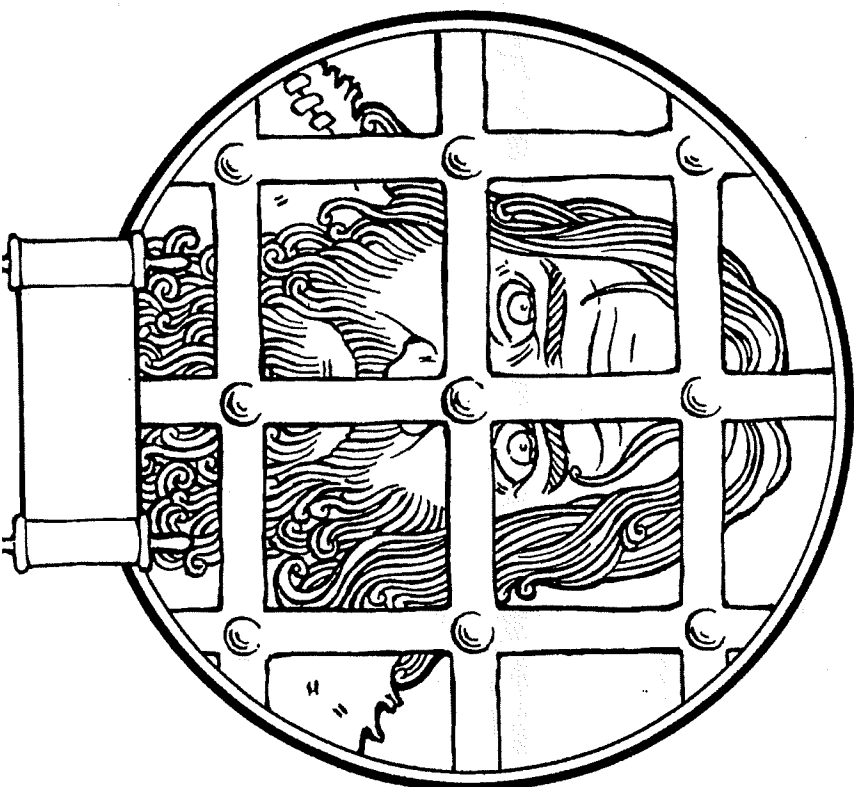
Molly Loder
Worship Choir
5th – 8th Grade

Advent III (Gaudete) – Our congregations must become comfortable speaking publicly about abortion if for no other reason than that Christian hearts also carry guilt and grief over the killing of their own children. The Word of the Lord commands us to condemn sin so that we may cry out comfort and peace (Isaiah 40:1-2) in the Heavenly Father's forgiveness, even for violating the sanctity of human life.

Attendance Sunday, December 7: 100 & 118 Communed: 137

Benevolence Total: \$799.27 - Benevolence given in November \$329.00

Third Sunday in Advent December 14, 2025



St. James Lutheran Church

Christ at the Center. Truth in All Things.

Reverend Mark Loder – 320-526-5245 – revloder@gmail.com
Vicar Gabriel Hallock – 320-526-5246 – vicarhallock@stjameshl.org
Church – 320-543-2766 – church@stjameshl.org
School – 320-543-2630 – school@stjameshl.org

Worship Information: December 14, 2025

Divine Service p. 184 Hymns: 347, 511 (645, 602, 636) 353

IN OUR PRAYERS TODAY... we remember Cheryl Moist, Darlene Yager, Carolyn Wackler, Jim Wackler, protection of the blessing of all life from conception to grave that God has precious created. Missionaries: Rev. James May and Family, Rev. Daniel and Kathy Conrad; those serving in the Armed Forces: Isaac Cain, Christena Dickens, Justin Hassa, Kelsey Hasz, Alex Hennen, Andrew Horsch, Brandon Maas, Blake Peterson, Alex Pettit, and Jacob Young.

TODAY'S SERMON... can be found in the information cart in the choir room.

CONGREGATION AT PRAYER... daily devotion guide can be found next to the bulletins.

ST. JAMES HAPPENINGS

WELCOME TO WORSHIP... The Lord's service to you through His gifts of Word and Sacrament are the means through which He offers the forgiveness of sin and nourishes your soul. Welcome! Thank you for being here. Please let us know how we may serve you. If you'd like to chat with Pastor Loder, consider giving him a call at 320-526-5245 or send him a message at revloder@gmail.com.

HOLY COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS... If you are a member of St. James, review p. 329 or the Ten Commandments in preparing to receive Jesus' body and blood for the forgiveness of your sins. If you are a guest, welcome! Communion at St. James is reserved for members of Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) congregations. Please speak with Pastor Loder about Communion before participating. If you know you will be visiting, it is best to call during the week before. If you are not communing but wish to receive a blessing, come forward with your hands crossed on your chest. **Didn't have a chance to talk with Pastor about Communion before church?** If you're a member of an LCMS congregation, you are welcome to Communion, but please let Pastor Loder know where you go to church when you come to the Communion rail. Please fill out a communion registration card and hand it to an Usher or put in the offering plate..

PASTOR THORSON... is our guest preacher this morning. He is a son of the congregation and serves as Pastor of Bethlehem, Middleville.

NEW MEMBERS... we joyfully welcome Jordan & Mackenzie Holmquist and their son Kane to our church family. May God bless them as they join us in worship, fellowship, and service. Please help them feel at home in our congregation.

YOUR WORD IS A LAMP... God enlightens our hearts through His Word, for **"Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path"** (Psalm 119:105). This December, we commit ourselves as a congregation to receiving that light by reading at least one chapter of Scripture daily. Scripture is filled with Christ—every page testifies of Him. Let His voice guide and comfort you each day as we grow together in this discipline.

EVERYONE IS INVITED... to join the Sunday School children next Sunday, December 21 at the 10:30 service to hear their Christmas message presentation. They have been enthusiastically preparing for Christmas and want to share their news with you all.

AN MEMORIAL... gift was given in honor of Delores Glessing from her family members in support of St. James Church and School and LWML. May her gifts continue to bless our church and school.

AN MEMORIAL... gift was given in honor of Richard Glessing from his wife in honor of our Support a Student fund. May his gifts continue to bless our school.

A BOOKLET... recording notable events and changes at St. James over the past 25 years has been assembled and is available one per family today. It is a supplement to the *History Book* given out in 2000 at the 125th Anniversary and covers the past 25 years. Extra copies may be ordered. Continuing strong in the Word of God has resulted in 25 more years of blessings at St. James.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE ST. JAMES GALA... held on Saturday, March 14, 2026. Tickets are on sale now and include dinner and entertainment. Reserve your spot with early-bird pricing of \$45/ticket. Prices increase by \$5 on December 20th. Call the school office at (320)543-2630 to reserve your tickets.

SUPPORT OUR LOCAL FOOD SHELF... monetary donations are needed to help stock our community food shelf. Your generosity helps purchase fresh and essential items for families in need. Contributions can be placed in the box located in the Narthex or through the church office.

COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

GRACE PLACE... in Montrose is a resource for fresh food for any person who needs it. Their Facebook page has information for times. On Christmas Day they will be hosting a free brunch from 10AM-Noon with games at the Montrose Community Center.