

The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

January 29, 2023

Hymn of Invocation

In Christ Alone



1. In Christ a - lone my hope is found; He is my light, my strength, my song;
2. In Christ a - lone, who took on flesh, full - ness of God in help - less babe!
3. There in the ground His bo - dy lay, light of the world by dark - ness slain.
4. No guilt in life, no fear in death this is the pow'r of Christ in me.



This cor - ner - stone, this so - lid ground, firm through the fierc - est drought and storm.
This gift of love and right - eous - ness, scorned by the ones He came to save,
Then burst - ing forth in glo - rious day, up from the grave He rose a - gain!
From life's first cry to fi - nal breath, Je - sus com - mands my des - ti - ny.



What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when striv - ings cease!
Till on that cross as Je - sus died, the wrath of God was sa - tis - fied;
And as He stands in vic - to - ry, sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man, can e - ver pluck me from His hand;



My com - for - ter, my all in all here in the love of Christ I stand.
for ev - 'ry sin on Him was laid here in the death of Christ I live.
for I am His and He is mine bought with the pre - cious blood of Christ,
Till He re - turns or calls me home here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

Text and tune: Keith Getty, Stuart Townend; Text and tune: © 2001 Thankyou Music. Used by permission: CCLI no. 11373734

Confession and Absolution

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Exhortation

- P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C **who made heaven and earth.**
- P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Kyrie

- P** Lord, have mercy upon us.
C **Christ, have mercy upon us.**
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Confession of Sins

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Absolution

- P** In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- C** **Amen.**

Reflection on God's Forgiveness

Psalm 86:3-5

- P** Be gracious to me, O Lord, for to you I cry all the day.
- C** Gladden the soul of your servant, for to you, O Lord, do I lift up my soul.
- P** For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving,
- C** Abounding in steadfast love to all who call upon you.

Service of the Word

Psalm

Psalm 15

- P** O LORD, who shall sojourn in your tent? Who shall dwell on your holy hill?
- C** He who walks blamelessly and does what is right and speaks truth in his heart;
- P** who does not slander with his tongue and does no evil to his neighbor, nor takes up a reproach against his friend;
- C** in whose eyes a vile person is despised, but who honors those who fear the LORD; who swears to his own hurt and does not change;
- P** who does not put out his money at interest and does not take a bribe against the innocent. He who does these things shall never be moved.
- C** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen

Gloria in Excelsis

- P** Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will.
- C** We praise You, we bless You, we worship You, we glorify You,
We give You thanks for Your great glory,
O Lord God, King of Heaven, Father Almighty.

Lord Jesus Christ, the one and only Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
You take away the sins of the world -
Receive our prayer and have mercy on us.

For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord,
You alone, Jesus, with the Holy Spirit, are Most High
In the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

¹Hear what the LORD says:

Arise, plead your case before the mountains,
and let the hills hear your voice.

²Hear, you mountains, the indictment of the LORD,
and you enduring foundations of the earth,
for the LORD has an indictment against his people,
and he will contend with Israel.

³"O my people, what have I done to you?
How have I wearied you? Answer me!

⁴For I brought you up from the land of Egypt
and redeemed you from the house of slavery,
and I sent before you Moses,
Aaron, and Miriam.

⁵O my people, remember what Balak king of Moab devised,
and what Balaam the son of Beor answered him,
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,
that you may know the saving acts of the LORD."

⁶"With what shall I come before the LORD,
and bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,
with calves a year old?

⁷Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"

⁸He has told you, O man, what is good;
and what does the LORD require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

¹Now I watched when the Lamb opened one of the seven seals, and I heard one of the four living creatures say with a voice like thunder, "Come!" ²And I looked, and behold, a white horse! And its rider had a bow, and a crown was given to him, and he came out conquering, and to conquer.

³When he opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature say, "Come!" ⁴And out came another horse, bright red. Its rider was permitted to take peace from the earth, so that men should slay one another, and he was given a great sword.

⁵When he opened the third seal, I heard the third living creature say, "Come!" And I looked, and behold, a black horse! And its rider had a pair of scales in his hand. ⁶And I heard what seemed to be a voice in the midst of the four living creatures, saying, "A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a denarius, and do not harm the oil and wine!"

⁷When he opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature say, "Come!" ⁸And I looked, and behold, a pale horse! And its rider's name was Death, and Hades followed him. And they were given authority over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword and with famine and with pestilence and by wild beasts of the earth.

⁹When he opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and for the witness they had borne.

¹⁰They cried out with a loud voice, "O Sovereign Lord, holy and true, how long before you will judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?" ¹¹Then they were each given a white robe and told to rest a little longer, until the number of their fellow servants and their brothers should be complete, who were to be killed as they themselves had been.

¹²When he opened the sixth seal, I looked, and behold, there was a great earthquake, and the sun became black as sackcloth, the full moon became like blood, ¹³and the stars of the sky fell to the earth as the fig tree sheds its winter fruit when shaken by a gale. ¹⁴The sky vanished like a scroll that is being rolled up, and every mountain and island was removed from its place. ¹⁵Then the kings of the earth and the great ones and the generals and the rich and the powerful, and everyone, slave and free, hid themselves in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains, ¹⁶calling to the mountains and rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of him who is seated on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb, ¹⁷for the great day of their wrath has come, and who can stand?"

¹After this I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding back the four winds of the earth, that no wind might blow on earth or sea or against any tree. ²Then I saw another angel ascending from the rising of the sun, with the seal of the living God, and he called with a loud voice to the four angels who had been given power to harm earth and sea, ³saying, "Do not harm the earth or the sea or the trees, until we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads." ⁴And I heard the number of the sealed, 144,000, sealed from every tribe of the sons of Israel:

⁵12,000 from the tribe of Judah were sealed,
12,000 from the tribe of Reuben,
12,000 from the tribe of Gad,
⁶12,000 from the tribe of Asher,
12,000 from the tribe of Naphtali,
12,000 from the tribe of Manasseh,
⁷12,000 from the tribe of Simeon,
12,000 from the tribe of Levi,
12,000 from the tribe of Issachar,
⁸12,000 from the tribe of Zebulun,
12,000 from the tribe of Joseph,
12,000 from the tribe of Benjamin were sealed.

⁹After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, ¹⁰and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

¹¹And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?" ¹⁴I said to him, "Sir, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵"Therefore they are before the throne of God,
and serve him day and night in his temple;
and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence.

¹⁶They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore;
the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat.

¹⁷For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

¹When the Lamb opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour. ²Then I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and seven trumpets were given to them. ³And another angel came and stood at the altar with a golden censer, and he was given much incense to offer with the prayers of all the saints on the golden altar before the throne, ⁴and the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, rose before God from the hand of the angel. ⁵Then the angel took the censer and filled it with fire from the altar and threw it on the earth, and there were peals of thunder, rumblings, flashes of lightning, and an earthquake.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.



Holy Gospel

Matthew 5:1–12

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.

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

¹Seeing the crowds, [Jesus] went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him.

²And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:

³“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴“Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

⁵“Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

⁶“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

⁷“Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

⁸“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

⁹“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

¹⁰“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹“Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the
dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Sermon Hymn #474

Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en! Trum - pets re -
2 Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter Tell - ing the
3 Je - sus the vine, We are the branch - es; Life in the
4 Weep - ing, be gone; Sor - row, be si - lent: Death put a -
5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er, Gold - en Je -



sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light! Splen - dor, the Lamb, Heav - en for -
sto - ry to o - pen our eyes; Break - ing our bread, Giv - ing us
Spir - it the fruit of the tree; Heav - en to earth, Christ to the
sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright. Cher - u - bim sing: "O grave, be
ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb, Riv - er of life, Saints and arch -



ev - er! Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!
glo - ry: Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.
peo - ple, Gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.
o - pen!" Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.
an - gels, Sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!



Refrain
Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise:



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

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Sermon

Offering

Please take a moment to sign and pass the "Record of Friendship" booklet or use the QR code located on the inside cover of the booklet.

Prayer Response

- P** Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

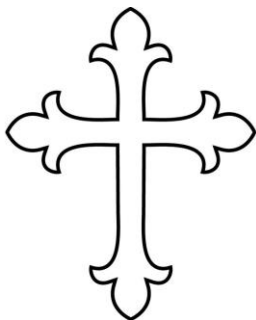
Service of the Sacrament

Preface

- 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 Him thanks and praise.**
- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

- P** Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:
- C** **Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna, in the highest.
Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord:
Glory to You, O Lord in the highest.**



Lord's Prayer

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.

The Words of Our Lord

Agnus Dei

P Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.
C Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us peace. Amen.

Distribution Hymn

Before the Throne of God Above



Be-fore the throne of God ab - ove I have a strong and per - fect
When Sa - tan tempts me to de - spair, and tells me of the guilt with -
Be-hold Him there, the ris - en Lamb, my per-fect spot - less right - eous -



plea, a great High Priest whose name is love, who ev - er lives and pleads for
in, up - ward I look and see Him there, who made an end to all my
ness, the great un - change - a - ble "I Am", the King of glo - ry and of



me. My name is grav - en on His hands, my name is writ - ten on His
sin. Be - cause the sin - less Sav - iour died my sin - ful soul is count - ed
grace. One with Him - self I can - not die, my soul is pur - chased with His



heart; I know that while in heav'n He stands, no tongue can
free, for God the Just is sat - is - fied to look on
blood; my life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ, my



bid me thence de - part, no tongue can bid me thence de - part.
Him and par - don me, to look on Him and par - don me.
Sav - iour and my God, with Christ, my Sav - iour and my God.

Text: Vikki Cook; Charitie Lees Bancroft; Tune: Vikki Cook; Text and tune: © 1997 Sovereign Grace Worship. Used by permission: CCLI no. 11373734



Distribution Hymn # 411

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
 2 I want to see the bright-ness of God.
 3 I'm look - ing for the com - ing of Christ.

I want to fol - low Je - sus.
 I want to look at Je - sus.
 I want to be with Je - sus.

God set the stars to give light to the world.
 Clear Sun of Righ - teous - ness, shine on my path,
 When we have run with pa - tience the race,

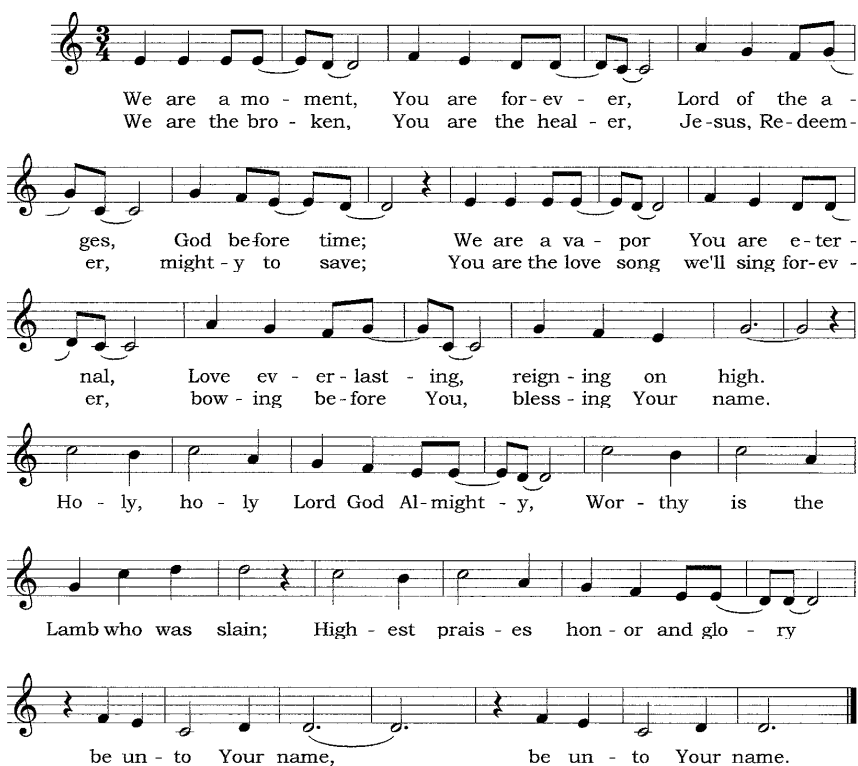
The star of my life is Je - sus.
 And show me the way to the Fa - ther.
 We shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain
 In Him there is no dark - ness at all.
 The night and the day are both a - like.
 The Lamb is the light of the cit - y of God.
 Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Text and tune: Kathleen Thomerson, 1934; Text and tune: © 1970, 1975 Celebration. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001220

Distribution Hymn

Be Unto Your Name



We are a mo - ment, You are for - ev - er, Lord of the a -
We are the bro - ken, You are the heal - er, Je - sus, Re - deem -
ges, God be - fore time; We are a va - por You are e - ter -
er, might - y to save; You are the love song we'll sing for - ev -
nal, Love ev - er - last - ing, reign - ing on high.
er, bow - ing be - fore You, bless - ing Your name.
Ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God Al - might - y, Wor - thy is the
Lamb who was slain; High - est prais - es hon - or and glo - ry
be un - to Your name, be un - to Your name.

Tune: Lynn DeShazo; Gary Sadler; Tune: © 1998 Integrity's Hosanna! Music. Used by permission: CCLI no. 11373734

The Dismissal

Nunc Dimittis

- P** Lord, now let Your servant depart in peace according to Your Word.
C For my eyes have seen Your salvation,
Which You have prepared before the face of all people;
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles and to be the glory of Your people
Israel. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.
-

Closing Hymn # 924

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing



1 Lord, dis - miss us with Your bless - ing, Fill our hearts with
 2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion For Your Gos - pel's
 3 Sav - ior, when Your love shall call us From our strug - gling

joy and peace; Let us each, Your love pos - sess - ing,
 joy - ful sound. May the fruits of Your sal - va - tion
 pil - grim way, Let not fear of death ap - pall us,

Tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace. O re - fresh us;
 In our hearts and lives a - bound. Ev - er faith - ful,
 Glad Your sum - mons to o - bey. May we ev - er,

O re - fresh us, Trav - 'ling through this wil - der - ness.
 ev - er faith - ful To Your truth may we be found.
 may we ev - er Reign with You in end - less day.

Text (sts. 1–2): attr. John Fawcett, 1740–1817, alt.; (st. 3): Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, alt.; Tune: Henry T. Smart, 1813–79; Text and tune: Public domain

Benediction

- P** Let us bless the Lord.
 - C** **Thanks be to God.**
 - P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
 The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.
 - C** **Amen.**
-

This Week at a Glance

Today

- Worship Service – 9:00 AM
- Adult Bible Study and Sunday School - 10:30 AM, Downstairs
- Youth Confirmation – Following Sunday School, Downstairs
- New Member Class – 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM

Tuesday

- Youth Group 6:30 - 8:00 PM

Wednesday

- Men's Bible Study 6:30 – 7:30 AM

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Card Shower

Please pick up a packet of cards in the church entryway to take home where you can fill them with a message, Bible verse, picture from the kids, or word of encouragement and return them to church for delivery to our members who are unable to attend worship in-person. There are 20 sets available. We will need volunteers to hand-deliver cards in the Glen Carbon area after church on Sunday, February 11th. Please contact the church office if you are interested in being a volunteer at contact@stjamesglencarbon.org.

"Art of Marriage" retreat - March 10-11

We have 5 tickets left! Whether you're engaged, newlyweds or decades into your marriage, this retreat is for you! "The Art of Marriage" weaves together expert teaching, real-life stories, humorous vignettes, and more to portray both the challenges and the beauty of God's design. Our retreat will be using this curriculum by Family Life to facilitate and guide our event. This is the same program as the "Weekend to Remember" offered in St. Louis each year.

Register now to reserve your spot for this event! Call Cheryl with any questions – 618-531-2186

Chili Cook-off and Family Game Night– Sunday, February 19th @ 5:00 PM

Bring the family, your favorite pot of chili and game for a night of fun and fellowship! If chili isn't your forte, bring a dessert to share! Drinks and sides will be provided. Prizes will be awarded!! For more information or questions call Tina Enke 618-795-0102, Jen Weber 618-407-5322, or the church office.

St. James Livestream has been and continues to be a wonderful opportunity for our members and for many viewers living away. We have been blessed with an amazing technology team that has worked consistently, every week, to make this happen. Now it's our turn to help...our technology team needs volunteers to learn how to help with the livestream! **No experience necessary!** Please contact Larry O'Leary at larryoleary@saintjamesglencarbon.org for more information!

Calling all prayer warriors! St. James is forming a prayer team to pray for our members and their specific prayer concerns. If you would like to be a part of this team, please contact Cheryl at the church office or via email at cheryl@stjamesglencarbon.org.



The Bible says that "No one has ever seen God." Why not? Do you ever wish that God would more fully reveal himself to you and the world? Our most recent episode of [Craving Answers Craving God](#) addresses the issue of "The Hiddenness of God." You'll find this new installment on our St. James website at saintjamesglencarbon.org.

Metro-East Lutheran High School invites you to an Open House on Sunday, Feb. 5, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Come tour our campus, meet our teachers, chat with administrators and get answers to your questions about everything from academics to extracurriculars to tuition assistance. For more information, call the school office at 618-656-0043 or email admissions@melhs.org.

Registration is now open for the [2023 LCMS Life Conference](#), which will be held March 2–3 at the LCMS International Center in St. Louis and online. The conference will provide Lutherans with resources to faithfully proclaim what God's Word teaches about life, health, marriage and family. Details can be found at <https://www.lcms.org>

Concordia Seminary Guild Luncheon is scheduled for Feb 3rd at 11:30 AM. For more information, please visit the [Seminary Guild Website](https://www.csl.edu/support/seminary-guild/) at <https://www.csl.edu/support/seminary-guild/> and select “Attend Seminary Guild Events.”



[St. James Attendance](#)



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