

James, the Brother of Jesus



The Minor Festival of St. James of Jerusalem

While saints may serve as examples of grace, they are not the object of worship or prayer, as these are reserved for God alone.



Good Shepherd Evangelical Lutheran Church and School

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A member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

Ministers of the Gospel: Educator/Principal Donna L. Tullberg

Pastor Paul A. Tullberg | Pastor John T. Melke

WELCOMING SONG

I Sing as I Arise Today

CW21 #779

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

DIALOGUE

This dialogue is to the glory of God in commemoration of the gospel proclamation and the encouragement given by James of Jerusalem, brother of our Lord. The verses cited are all taken from the letter of St. James.

Every good act of giving and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the lights, who does not change or shift like a shadow.

Just as He planned, He gave us birth by the word of truth so that we would be a kind of firstfruits of His creations. *(James 1:17-18)*

If any one of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives it to all without reservation and without finding fault,

and it will be given to him. *(James 1:5)*

Be people who do what the word says,
not people who only hear it. Such people are deceiving themselves. (*James 1:22*)

In fact, whoever keeps the whole law but stumbles in one point
has become guilty of breaking all of it. (*James 2:10*)

So confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, in order that you may be healed.

The prayer of a righteous man is able to do much because it is effective. (*James 5:16*)

But [God] gives greater grace! That is why it says:

“God opposes the proud, but He gives grace to the humble.” (*James 4:6*)

Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord,
and He will lift you up. (*James 4:10*)

Let it be known that the one who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save his soul from death
and cover a multitude of sins.

Brothers and sisters in the faith, we give thanks to God for sending us a Savior in Christ Jesus. He has done what James has proclaimed. Jesus has turned us from error by His perfect life, covered over a multitude of sins by His innocent death, and has saved us from death by His glorious resurrection. Not only has God forgiven us in Christ, but He has given us a great cloud of witnesses who have confessed faith in their Savior, even as we confess Him now.

Mercy triumphs over judgment! (*James 2:13b*)

HOLY BAPTISM *Oscar Carl Olson –son of Kirk and Laurel*

All Who Believe and Are Baptized
CW21 #692



THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

SALUTATION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray:

Grant, O God, that following the example of Your servant James of Jerusalem, brother of our Lord, Your church may give itself to fervent prayer and the healing of strife and discord; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

FIRST LESSON

Acts 15:12-22

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 1B

How Truly Blest are They

[the cantor sings stanzas 1,2]

How truly blest are they who shun the sinners' ways,
among their counsels never stand, nor take the scorners' place,

But make the law of God their study and delight
amid the labors of the day and watches of the night.

Stanza 3: **He like a tree shall thrive with waters near the root.
Fresh as the leaf their name shall live; their works are heav'nly fruit.**

[the cantor sings stanzas 4,5]

The wicked are not so! They no such blessing find.
Their hopes shall flee like empty chaff before the driving wind.

How will they bear to stand before that judgment seat
where all the saints at Christ's right hand in full assembly meet?

**Stanza 6: God knows and He approves the way the righteous go,
but sinners and their works shall meet a dreadful overthrow.**

SECOND LESSON

James 1:1-12

THIRD LESSON

Matthew 13:54-58

VICTORY SONG OF THE DAY

By Faith

CW21 #868



INSTRUCTION IN THE WORD

James 1:1-2, 12

Joy through Trials

HYMN OF THE DAY

By All Your Saints Still Striving

CW21 #892, stanzas 1 & 26

THE ATHANASIAN CREED *Credo*

Whoever wishes to be saved must, above all, hold to the Christian faith.

Whoever does not keep this faith pure in all points will certainly perish forever.

It is furthermore necessary for eternal salvation that one faithfully believe that our Lord Jesus Christ also took on human flesh.

Now this is the true Christian faith: We believe and confess that our Lord Jesus Christ, God's Son, is both God and man.

He is God, eternally begotten from the nature of the Father, and He is man, born in time from the nature of His mother, fully God, fully man, with rational soul and human flesh; equal to the Father as to His deity, less than the Father as to His humanity.

and though He is both God and man, Christ is not two persons but one:

one not by changing the deity into flesh, but by taking the humanity into God;

One, indeed, not by mixture of the natures, but by unity in one person;

for just as the rational soul and flesh is one human being, so God and man is one Christ,

He suffered for our salvation, descended into hell, rose the third day from the dead.

He ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, and from there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

At His coming all people will rise with their own bodies to answer for their personal deeds.

Those who have done good will enter eternal life, but those who have done evil will go into eternal fire.

This is the true Christian faith. Whoever does not faithfully and firmly believe this cannot be saved.



OFFERING

OFFERING HYMN

CW #716 stanza 4

**O Christ, th'apostles' Lord, the martyrs' strength and song,
the crucified and risen King to whom the saints belong:
though generations pass, our tribute still we bring,
our hymns a sacrifice of praise, our lives an offering.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

With thanksgiving and praise, O Lord, we remember all Your faithful servants who throughout the ages have witnessed to Your name: the mighty and the lowly, great leaders and humble men and women, those who have served You in prosperity and those who in the day of trouble have not failed, those in foreign places and those in this land.

We rejoice that they now rest from their labors in Your presence.

We especially thank You for the leadership of St. James of Jerusalem as we commemorate his service today. For encouraging love towards one another, emphasizing Your blessings through prayer, properly teaching that good works flow from faith, and proclaiming Christ, we praise You and give You thanks.

Encourage us by St. James' letter and leadership to follow our Savior in His ministry of compassion and love.

Heavenly Father, we recall with thanksgiving what You have done for Your Church through the saints of old. May their good works prompted by Your love in Christ and performed to Your glory while here on earth encourage us to live for You.

Help us to remember our leaders who have spoken Your Word to us.

As we join our worship and work with theirs, may we acknowledge ourselves to be part of that great cloud of witnesses from every age and place. Unite all Your people in the true faith, in the hope of an eternity at Your side, and in the love that reveals us to be Your children.

Join us to the assembly of the saints and angels to declare Your praise forever.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

Holy Spirit, our comfort in trouble and guide through life, as You have protected and prospered Your saints in the past,

Look with favor on us now and bring us safely to eternal glory. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER—sung page 230

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours now and forever. Amen.

THE SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give Him thanks and praise.



It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give You thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who in blessing His saints of the past has given us assurance and hope that, following their example, we may run the race marked out for us and receive the crown of glory that will never fade away. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise Your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY *Sanctus*

Before the words of institution, we sing a combination of the song of the angels in God's throne room from Isaiah 6:3 ("Holy, holy, holy") along with the words of Psalm 118:25,26 ("Hosanna, come and save us") which the people sang to Jesus on Palm Sunday. This version is set to the tune "If God Himself Be For Me" (CW21 #819).

Tune: VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN



1 Sing, "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of hosts on high,
2 Ho - san - na in the high - est! How blest is Christ our King,



your ev - er - last - ing glo - ry fills earth and sea and sky."
who died as our Re - deem - er, e - ter - nal life to bring!



Our voic - es cry, "Ho - san - na!" Lord, hear our hum - ble plea:
How blest are you, Lord Je - sus, now com - ing in God's name!



in mer - cy, come and save us; in love, come set us free.
"Ho - san - na in the high - est!" our grate - ful hearts pro - claim.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night He was betrayed, took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is My body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me."

Then He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is My blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

LAMB OF GOD *Agnus Dei*

As we approach the altar for the Sacrament, we consider the Lamb of God who alone takes away the sin of the world, as John the Baptist pointed out in John 1:29. This version is set to the tune "The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord" (CW21 #677).

Tune: GOTTLOB, ES GEHT NUNMEHR ZU ENDE



1 O Lamb of God, once lift - ed high up - on a
2 O Lamb of God, your sac - ri - fice has can - celled



cross to bleed and die, in per - fect love you
sin, has paid its price; your per - fect love will



took our place— be - stow on us your sav - ing grace.
nev - er cease— have mer - cy, Lord, and grant us peace.

OUR COMMUNION PRACTICE

The Bible teaches that the Lord's Supper is a unique communion of Christ and the individual believer as well as a coming together of people who hold to the same beliefs. Because of these Scriptural truths, we practice Member Communion at Good Shepherd. Those who are confirmed members of Wisconsin Synod (WELS) and Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS) congregations are invited to receive the Lord's Supper with us. If you are not a WELS member but have an interest in receiving Holy Communion, please speak with our pastors after church today or at another time. We are aware that there are a number of other teachings about Holy Communion, and we want it to be a blessing for you, so we would look forward to sharing with you what God says about this Sacrament.

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

With All My Heart I Praise You

CW21 658

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Spread Abroad, O Mighty Word

CW21 #902

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness

CW21 #663



Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good;
His mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

PRAYER

We give thanks, almighty God, that You have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it You will strengthen our faith in You and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

THE BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

Amen.

PARTING SONG

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

CW21 #932



WELCOME TO GOOD SHEPHERD

Our mission is simple and bold:

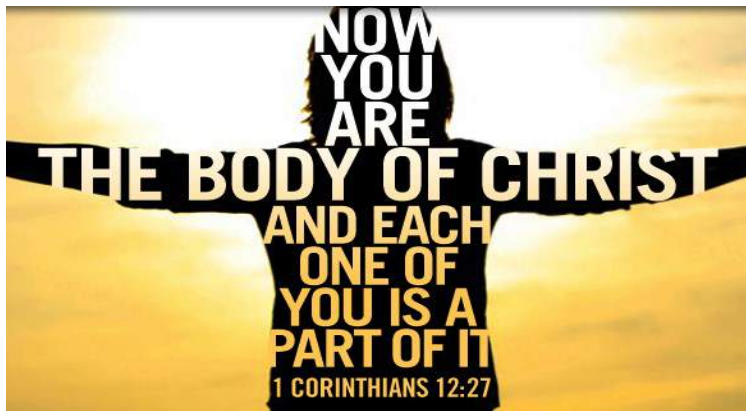
We seek to grow in faith and knowledge of our Savior Jesus. We want to *make Him known to others* so they, too, might share in the joy Jesus won for them.

Please join us after worship today

for our

Quarterly Congregational

Assembly!



Our "Busy Bags" or "Quiet Bags" need a volunteer or two to help organize/remove their contents so that they are easily used by little ones and their families.

Also, donations of Bible based coloring books, unused spiral notebooks, etc...are appreciated.

Contact Kim Mittelsteadt at 715-424-4758

Thank You!!!

Our Extended & Growing Family of Faith remains in our prayers to God our Father

Family of Elaine Craig,
Dawn Spaulding's mom
Connie Heitl
Pastor John
Family of Gary Bauer
Chris Ryun
Dr. Roger Newman
Lynn Ives
Pat & Al Rozelle
Frank Johaneck
Curtis Schultz
Elmer Loechler
Elaine Harrington
Shirley Johnson
Brad Roberts
Troy Marks
Mary Cline
Betty Havlik
Diane Bannerman
Gloria Kraus, Kim Mittelsteadt's mom
Dr. Cheli & DeeDee Marichal family
Mandy Ehke & Family
Pastor Mike Wolff
Sam & Becky Piper
Jon Mittelsteadt
Judy, DeeDee Marichal's sister's family
Donna Marks
Julie Bunt
Pat Hunziker in IN
Sarah Allerding's Grandma
Forrest & Elizabeth in CA
Junita in Hong Kong
Kristin in USA
Dyde -France
Alberta Schroeder
Janet in CA
Dave & Jill
Ben Holberg
Sonia in India
Gloria Walters in NY
Melissa in England
Robert in Ecuador
Erik & Leah Alair & Family (Sem. student)
Sean Jenkins in TN
Syed Gul in Pakistan

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OUR WEEK WITH JESUS AT A GLANCE

- 10/23 SUNDAY** 9:00 am Worship with Holy Communion
10:15 am Sunday School & Quarterly Congregational Assembly
2:00 pm Cable TV Rebroadcast of **Last Sunday's** Service
Solarus Ch 3 & Spectrum Ch 985
- 10/24 Monday** 11:00 am *Coffee with Christ* at Grace's in WR
- 10/26 Wednesday** 2:00 pm Cable TV Rebroadcast of **This Sunday's** Service
Solarus Ch 3 & Spectrum Ch 985
No School Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, Oct 26-Oct 28—WELS State Teachers Conference
- 10/27 Thursday** 7:00 pm Worship
- 10/29 Saturday** 4-6pm Trunk or Treat!

Birthdays This Week

10/25 Josiah Melke 10/29 Josh Beyer



Trunk or Treat!
Saturday, October 29
4pm-6pm

Design a trunk!! Donate candy or small give-away items!
Help in another way! Sign-up sheets are out! Thank you for your help!!!



Ladies Group Holiday Bake Sale!
Pre-Order forms are out for you
to complete!

Forms are due Sunday, November 13!

Phone orders can be made to Fern at 715-459-3571 or reff37@yahoo.com

This is a free-will offering event. Proceeds support our WELS missions.

Chapter 4

4:1-3 What is your impression of the people to whom these words were first written?

4:4-6 In what way(s) is friendship with the world hatred toward God and makes someone an enemy of God?

4:7-10 What does it mean to submit to God?

4:13-17 What rather common aspect of life, one that we might consider to be good and wise is James talking about?

What is really at the heart of a person's boasting or bragging?

Much is made today of financial planning, the right business deals, and planning for our retirement.

Comment on these things from the basis of these words of Scripture.

Since each of our lives are like a mist, what should we be prompted to do in our daily life? Consider this in relation to your life, your family, your children.

If you knew that today was the last day of your life, how would you want to spend it? What would you want to share with those whom you love? What would you want to give to your child/children?

How does a submission to God's will help strengthen and guide us in our Christian lives.

What good things should Christians be doing?

Chapter Five

5:1-6 How does James characterize the wealth of the rich he is writing about here? What does he identify as the problem with the rich in verse 3?

5:7-9 James uses the phrases "until the Lord's coming" and "the Lord's coming is near." What is the force of this in his message? In what ways do Christians need to stand firm?

5:10-11 What prophets were patient in the face of suffering?

How did Job show great perseverance?

Why should we never forget that the Lord is "full of compassion and mercy?"

5:12 Why should Christians be careful about improper swearing? Is all swearing wrong?

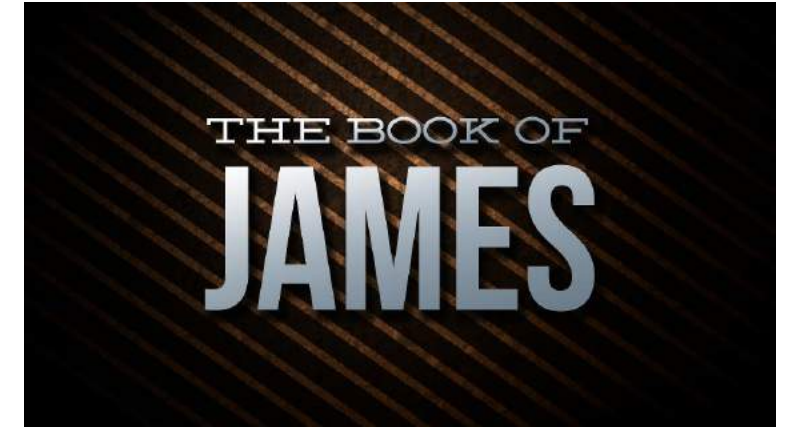
What do James' words about the rich say to a church or church body which has great wealth stored away or in its possession?

5:13-16 Why is prayer the thing we should do most when we have troubles?

5:17-18 What does the example of Elijah teach us?

What can and should we pray about for each other?

What special lessons does the book of James present for our Christian lives today?



“Living in Christ”

- I. Be joyful in trials, 1:1-18
- II. Be a doer of God’s Word, 1:19 – 2:26
- III. Be a tongue-tamer, #:1-12
- IV. Be humble, 3:13 – 4:12
- V. Be careful about money making, 4:13 – 5:6
- VI. Be a Job, 5:7-11
- VII. Be a brother, 5:12-20

The Audience

It seems to be Jewish believers, rather than the Gentile believers who came early to dominate the church. It assumes a faith in Jesus among its audience, therefore, it does not stress the importance of faith for salvation. The book has been compared to the wisdom literature of the Old Testament--Proverbs and Ecclesiastes. It is a book which speaks about living the Christian life in action.

The Author & Date

The writer simply identifies himself as, "James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ" (1:1). Most Bible scholars believe he is the James to whom Jesus appeared following the resurrection (1 Cor 15:7). This James gained prominence in the Jerusalem church following the death of James the brother of John. He became the head of the church in Jerusalem and presided at the council held to discuss the Gentiles in the church (Acts 15:13). Paul spoke of this same James as "the Lord's brother" (Gal 1:19). Many Bible scholars date the writing of this book to the early part of the 60's A.D. It reflects an early time in the church when there were a significant number of Jewish believers who were still well familiar with the worship in the temple.

Luther and James

Martin Luther wrote, "I praise it and consider it a good book, because it sets up no doctrines of men but vigorously promulgates the law of God." For Luther, the heart and core of the Scriptures was the message of salvation in Christ Jesus, justification through faith. His struggle with the Roman Church was over this central teaching of the Bible. James makes no mention of this and says little directly about Jesus. But it is interesting to note in Luther's writings how very often he quotes James in a very positive way.

Chapter One

1:2-8 Is it natural for believers to consider trials as "pure joy"?

What is the result of trials for our faith?

1:13-15 What do these words teach us about temptation?

What are we asking for when we pray, "And lead us not into temptation"?

1:16-18 How do these words address trials?

What comforts do they bring to a believer facing trials?

What trials can and do believers face today?

How can the devil use trials to destroy our faith? How does God use them to strengthen it?

Chapter Two

What sinful human weaknesses do we need to be on guard against when it comes to our church visitors and our evangelism work?

Is there a danger in treating "favored" members in special ways?

Why do we need to guard against favoritism in all aspects of life (home, family, work, neighbors, etc.)?

Compare and discuss the following two positions: 1) "Good works are necessary for salvation; 2) Good works are harmful to salvation."

Is there any danger in stressing too much the teaching of salvation by faith alone?

Chapter Three

3:3-6 Compare the tongue to the earthly examples James presents here.

3:7-8 What great difficulty that we face does James point out here?

Is James here telling us that the tongue can "never" be tamed? What makes the tongue wild? What alone can tame it?

3:13-16 What does it mean to be "wise?" What characterizes someone who is wise?

What is "understanding?" Consider that the Greek word translated as "under-standing" comes from the same word root as "faith."

What is "humility that comes from wisdom?" What is "bitter envy?" What is "selfish ambition?" Why should the Christian never boast about either?

3:17-18 What is "wisdom" that is "pure?" "Peace Loving?" "Considerate?" "Submissive?" "Full of mercy and good fruit?" "Impartial?" "Sincere?"