



ST. JAMES EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

2437 Niagara Road, Niagara Falls, NY 14304

www.saintjameslutheran-niagarafalls.org

Office: 716-731-4057

Pastor Randy Kaminska 716-225-3591

Assoc. Pastor Andrew Dysard Sr. 716-239-6867

Nineteenth Sunday - Pentecost

October 4, 2026

OUR MISSION:

We are called to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus through worship, witness, and ministry to our members and community.

Welcome to St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church. If you are visiting and you have no church of your own, we invite you to make this your church home, but above all, we invite you to come and worship with us at any time. We worship every Sunday at 9:15 am. If you would like to speak to speak directly to Pastor Randy, please call his cell (716) 225-3591.

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.

Prelude

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Confession and Absolution

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sin to God our Father, imploring 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 to the Lord.

C: And you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

(Time for silent reflection)

P: Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess to you that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. Therefore, we flee for refuge to your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring your grace for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Most merciful God, you have given your Son to die for us. Have mercy on us, and for his sake grant us remission of all our sins. By your Holy Spirit, increase in us true knowledge of you and of your will and true obedience to your word, so that by your grace we may come to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you and for his sake forgives you all your sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ, he gives the power to become children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. The Almighty and merciful God grant unto you that are penitent pardon and remission of all your sins, time for amendment of life, and the grace and comfort of his Holy Spirit. **C: Amen**

Hymn#40 “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise!

2 Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
Nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might:
Thy justice, like mountains high soaring above
Thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

3 To all, life thou givest, to both great and small;
In all life thou livest, the true life of all;
We blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,
And wither and perish, but naught changeth thee.

4 Thou reignest in glory, thou dwellest in light;
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
All laud we would render; O help us to see
'Tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!

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 with your spirit.

Kyrie Eleison (“Lord have mercy...”)

♪ Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

♪ Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

Gloria in Excelsis (Glory be to God on high...) ”

P: Glory be to God on High and on earth peace, good will to all.

♪ Lord, we praise your name on high, worship you and glorify.
To the Lamb of God we cry and join the angel’s song.

Refrain:

***Gloria! Let the music flow. Gloria! To the earth below.
Gloria! Feel our hearts aglow with the joyful angel’s song.***

**You have borne the sins of all. Mercy, Lord, and hear our call.
Everyone, both great and small, come join the angel's song.**

(Refrain)

**You, alone, the Holy One, You, alone, God's only Son,
In your name we've just begun to join the angel's song.**

(Refrain)

Salutation

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And with your spirit.

Prayer of the Day

Generously pardon and give peace to your faithful people, O Lord, that being cleansed from every sin, we may be free and glad to serve; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

First Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7

¹Let me sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. ²He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; and he looked for it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. ³And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. ⁴What more was there to do for my vineyard, that I have not done in it? When I looked for it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? ⁵And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. ⁶I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and briars and thorns shall grow up; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. ⁷For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah are his pleasant planting; and he looked for justice, but behold, bloodshed; for righteousness, but behold, an outcry!

Psalm 80:7-18*

⁷Restore us, O God of hosts; show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

⁸**You have brought a vine out of Egypt; you cast out the nations and planted it.**

⁹You prepared the ground for it; it took root and filled the land.

¹⁰**The mountains were covered by its shadow and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.**

¹¹You stretched out its tendrils to the sea and its branches to the river.

¹²**Why have you broken down its wall, so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?**

¹³The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it, and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.

¹⁴**Turn now, O God of hosts, look down from heaven; behold and tend this vine; preserve what your right hand has planted.**

¹⁵They burn it with fire like rubbish; at the rebuke of your countenance let them perish.

¹⁶**Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.**

¹⁷And so will we never turn away from you; give us life, that we may call upon your Name.

¹⁸**Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

Second Reading: Philippians 3:4b-14

^{4b}If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. ⁷But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸Indeed, I count everything as loss

because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith — ¹⁰that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead. ¹²Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation

♪Hallelu! Halleluia! Give praise to the Lord for the blessings of heaven in God's holy Word. For the words of forgiveness, the words that endure, Hallelu! Hallelujah! Give praise to the Lord.

♪Glory be to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 21:33-46

³³{Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people,} “Hear another parable. There was a master of a house who planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a winepress in it and built a tower and leased it to tenants, and went into another country. ³⁴When the season for fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit. ³⁵And the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶Again he sent other servants, more than the first. And they did the same to them. ³⁷Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ ³⁸But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.’ ³⁹And they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. ⁴⁰When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” ⁴¹They said to him,

“He will put those wretches to a miserable death and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons.” ⁴²Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures: ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes’? ⁴³Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits. ⁴⁴And the one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him.” ⁴⁵When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they perceived that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶And although they were seeking to arrest him, they feared the crowds, because they held him to be a prophet.

♪Praise be to you, O Christ

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and our salvation, He came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit, He became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered death and was buried. On the third day He rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son He is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Sermon “The Stone the Builders Rejected

Hymn #192.....“My Hope is Built on Nothing Less”

1 My hope is built on nothing less Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
No merit of my own I claim, But wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain:

On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand,

2 When darkness veils his lovely face, I rest on his unchanging grace;
In every high and stormy gale My anchor holds within the veil. **(refrain)**

3 His oath, his covenant, his blood Sustain me in the raging flood;
When all supports are washed away. He then is all my hope and stay.

(refrain)

4 When he shall come with trumpet sound, Oh, may I then in him be found,
Clothed in his righteousness alone, Redeemed to stand before the
throne! **(refrain)**

Announcements

Offering: *As a guest or visitor, we acknowledge your presence as the only offering expected today.*

Offertory: ♪We Give Thee but Thine Own

♪We give thee but thine own, Whate'er the gift may be;

All that we have is thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from thee.

Offertory Prayer:

P: Holy God, we give you thanks for all that we have: ourselves, our time and our treasures, all that first belonged to you and has been gifted to us, your children. Accept our offerings as a sign of our devotion to you, and make us truly grateful for the many gifts we have received. In Jesus' holy name we pray. **C: Amen**

Prayers of the Church

P: "Lord, in your mercy," **C: "Hear our prayer."**

P: Lord, be merciful to us all, and when we reach our final hour, grant us a blessed departure from this world, and on the last day, a resurrection into your glory. **C: Amen**

Prefaces & Sanctus

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And with your spirit.

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 everlasting God: Through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, our Lord and Savior, who ascending above the heavens and sitting at your right hand, poured out the Holy Spirit as he had promised upon the chosen disciples, causing the whole earth to rejoice. Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify your glorious name; evermore praising you, and singing:

♫C: Holy, Holy, Holy, God of Pow'r almighty.

Heav'n and earth are full of your glory,

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Lord's Prayer and Words of Institution

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.

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.

Agnus Dei & Distribution of Communion

♫C: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world. Lamb of God, your mercies never cease. Lamb of God, you take the sins of the world. Jesus Christ, Lamb of God, you give us peace

Communion Hymns

Hymn #14..... "I Need Thee Every Hour"

Guidance

14

I Need Thee Every Hour

Annie S. Hawks, 1835-1918

Robert Lowry, 1826-1899

Refrain, Robert Lowry, 1826-1899

In moderate time

1. I need thee ev-ery hour, Most gra - cious Lord;
2. I need thee ev-ery hour, Stay thou near by;
3. I need thee ev-ery hour, In joy or pain;
4. I need thee ev-ery hour, Teach me thy will;
5. I need thee ev-ery hour, Most Ho - ly One,

No ten - der voice like thine Can peace af - ford.
Temp - ta - tions lose their power When thou art nigh.
Come quick - ly and a - bide, Or life is vain.
And thy rich prom - is - es In me ful - fill.
O make me thine in - deed, Thou bless - ed Son.

Refrain

I need thee, O I need thee, Ev - ery hour I need thee;

O bless me now, my Sav - ior, I come to thee. A - men.

Hymn #69..... “Nearer My God to Thee”

1 Nearer, my God, to thee, Nearer to thee,
E'en though it be a cross That raiseth me,
Still all my song shall be, Nearer, my God, to thee,
Nearer, my God, to thee, Nearer to thee.

2 Though like the wanderer, The sun gone down,
Darkness be over me, My rest a stone,
Yet in my dreams I'd be Nearer, my God, to thee,
Nearer, my God, to thee, Nearer to thee.

3 Then let my way appear Steps unto heav'n;
All that thou sendest me In mercy giv'n;
Angels to beckon me Nearer, my God, to thee,
Nearer, my God, to thee, Nearer to thee.

4 Then with my waking thoughts, Bright with thy praise,
Out of my stony griefs Bethel I'll raise;
So by my woes to be Nearer, my God, to thee,
Nearer, my God, to thee, Nearer to thee.

5 Or if, on joyful wing Cleaving the sky,
Sun, moon, and stars forgot, Upward I fly:
Still all my song shall be, Nearer, my God, to thee;
Nearer, my God, to thee, Nearer to thee.

Hymn # 67.....“Shall We Gather at the River”

1 Shall we gather at the river, where bright angel feet have trod,
With its crystal tide forever flowing by the throne of God?

Refrain

Yes, we'll gather at the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river;
Gather with the saints at the river that flows by the throne of God.

2 On the margin of the river, washing up its silver spray,
We will walk and worship ever, all the happy golden day. (*refrain*)

3 Ere we reach the shining river, lay we ev'ry burden down;
Grace our spirits will deliver, and provide a robe and crown. (*refrain*)

4 Soon we'll reach the shining river, soon our pilgrimage will cease;
Soon our happy hearts will quiver with the melody of peace. (*refrain*)

O Jesus Thou Art StandingST. EDITH (ST. HILDA). 7 6, 7 6. D.
*In moderate time*JUSTIN H. KNECHT, 1752-1817
EDWARD HUSBAND, 1843-1908

1. O Je - sus, thou art stand - ing Out - side the fast-closed door,
2. O Je - sus, thou art knock - ing; And lo, that hand is scarred,
In low - ly pa - tience wait - ing To pass the thresh - old o'er.
And thorns thy brow en - cir - cle, And tears thy face have marred.
Shame on us, Chris - tian breth - ren, His Name and sign who bear,
O love that pass - eth knowl - edge, So pa - tient - ly to wait;
O shame, thrice shame up - on us, To keep him stand - ing there!
O sin that hath no e - qual, So fast to bar the gate! A-men.

3 O Jesus, thou art pleading
In accents meek and low,
'I died for you, my children,
And will ye treat me so?'
O Lord, with shame and sorrow
We open now the door;
Dear Saviour, enter, enter
And leave us nevermore. Amen.

William Walsham How, 1823-97
c 1958 Augsburg Publishing

CCLI Lic. 1757239

Nunc Dimittis

C: Lord, now let your servant depart in peace, According to your word.
For my eyes have seen your salvation, Which you have prepared before
the face of all people: A light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of
your people Israel. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and the Holy

Spirit, As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, World without end. Amen.

Thanksgiving

P: We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through this your salutary gift; and we ask you in your mercy to strengthen us through the same in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. **C: Amen.**

Benedicamus & Benediction

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And with your spirit.**

P: Bless the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine upon you, and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

Hymn#54.....“Lord Dismiss Us With Thy Blessing

1 Holy God, we praise your name; Lord of all, we bow before you.
All on earth your scepter claim, All in heav'n above adore you.
Infinite your vast domain, Everlasting is your reign.

2 Hark! The glad celestial hymn Angel choirs above are raising;
Cherubim and seraphim, In unceasing chorus praising,
Fill the heav'ns with sweet accord: "Holy, holy, holy Lord!"

3 Lo, the apostolic train Join your sacred name to hallow;
Prophets swell the glad refrain, And the white-robed martyrs follow;
And from morn to set of sun Through the Church the song goes on.

4 Holy Father, holy Son, Holy Spirit, three we name you,
Though in essence only one; Undivided God we claim you
And, adoring, bend the knee While we own the mystery.

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord...**C: Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Next Week's Readings:

Isaiah 25:6-9; Psalm 23; Philippians 4:4-13; Matthew 22:1-14

Let Us Remember in Our Prayers (*St. James Member)

*John Milleville	* Norma DeVantier	Dan Osgood
*Mark Voelker	Linda Arnold	William Love
*Roger Siegmann	Denise Joy	Bo O'Brien
*Bill Salisbury	Ronaldo Posa	Kathy Wittmeyer
*Deliah Licht	Barb Haseley (St.	Ruth C.
*Dennis Schmidt	Peters)	Gianna Bianco
*John Miskey III	Greg Milleville	
*Mike DeVantier	Sabine Miskey	

Also Remember in Our Prayers

Those in nursing homes and shut-ins

*Elly Milleville	*Jean Schmidt
*Julianne (Judy) Brown	*Jim Heuer
*Ruth Haseley	James Heath

Organizations and Community

Stephen Ministry

"Young Life"

Our area public and parochial schools

St. Paul's Lutheran Church (Wilson)

All Emergency Services personnel

*Scott Milleville

Michael Jon DeVantier

David Nedell

The members of our armed forces

The men and women serving at the N.F. Air Base

Matthew Reddy (Niagara Falls)

Justin DeVantier (Niagara Falls)

Edmond Moloney (Hawaii)

Eric Graca (Illinois)

Michael Coulter (South Korea)

Joshua Drasgow (Washington State)

Keith Coleman (Okinawa)

Nicholas Horvath (Middle East)