



# ST. JAMES

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

2437 Niagara Road, Niagara Falls, NY 14304

[www.saintjameslutheran-niagarafalls.org](http://www.saintjameslutheran-niagarafalls.org)

Office: (716) 731-4057

Pastor Randy Kaminska: (716) 225-3591

## OUR MISSION:

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

**Sixth Sunday of Easter**

**May 25, 2025**

***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 directly to Pastor Randy, please call his cell.***

## ***Prelude***

***Choir..... "Only a Holy God"***

1. Who else commands all the hosts of heaven?

Who else could make ev'ry king bow down?

Who else can whisper and darkness trembles? Only a Holy God.

2. What other beauty demands such praises?

What other splendour out shines the sun?

What other majesty rules with justice? Only a Holy God.

***Chorus:*** Come and behold Him, the One and the Only.

Cry out, sing holy, forever a Holy God. Come and worship the Holy God.

3. What other glory consumes like fire? What other power can raise the dead?

What other name remains undefeated? Only a Holy God.

4. Who else could rescue me from my failing

Who else would offer His only Son

Who else invites me to call Him Father

Only a Holy God

Only my Holy God

***Chorus:*** Come and behold Him, the One and the Only.

Cry out, sing holy, forever a Holy God. Come and worship the Holy God.

## **Announcements**

Hymn 268.. ..... Jesus Shall Reign

1 Jesus shall reign where'er the sun  
Does its successive journeys run;  
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore,  
Till moons shall wax and wane no more.

2 To him shall endless prayer be made,  
And praises throng to crown his head;  
His name like sweet perfume shall rise  
With every morning sacrifice.

3 People and realms of every tongue  
Dwell on his love with sweetest song;  
And infant voices shall proclaim  
Their early blessings on his name.

4 Blessings abound where'er he reigns:  
The prisoners leap to lose their chains,  
The weary find eternal rest,  
And all who suffer want are blest.

5 Let ev'ry creature rise and bring  
Honors peculiar to our King;  
Angels descend with songs again,  
And earth repeat the loud amen.

Greeting

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

## Living Hope

*P: Almighty God, you know us better than we know ourselves. You know our every sin, what we have done and what we have failed to do. We come to You with humble hearts, confessing our sin and seeking Your mercy.*

1. How great the cha - sm that lay be-  
tween us. How high the moun - tain I could not climb. In des - per - a - tion I turned to  
heav - en and spoke Your name in - to the night. Then through the dark - ness Your lov - ing-  
kind - ness tore through the shad - ows of my soul. The work is fin - ished, the end is  
writ - ten. Je - sus Christ, my liv - ing hope.

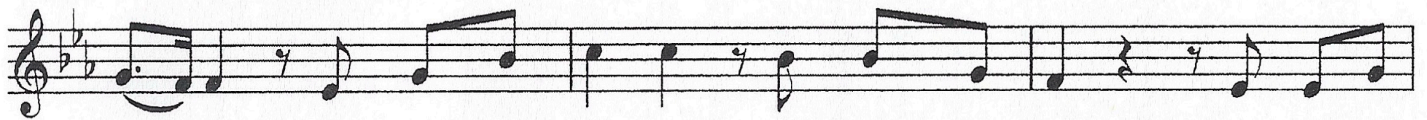
The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Living Hope'. It consists of five staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is written on a single treble clef staff. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The first line of music corresponds to the first line of lyrics, and so on. The final line of music ends with a double bar line.

*P: Let us take a moment of reflection to consider our Transgression.*

*P: Most merciful God, you have given your only Son to die for us. Have mercy on us, and for his sake grant us forgiveness.*



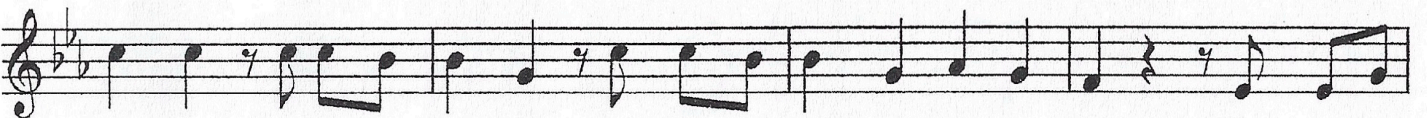
2. Who could im - ag - ine so great a



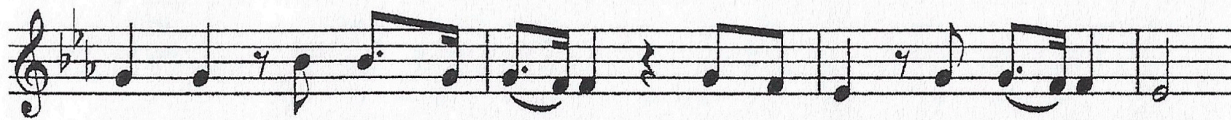
mer - cy? What heart could fath - om such bound - less grace? The God of



ag - es stepped down from glo - ry to wear my sin and bear my shame. The cross has

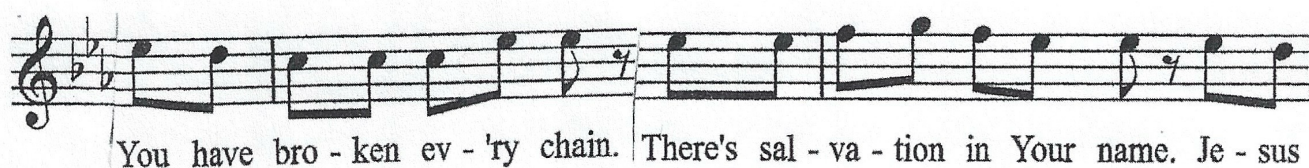
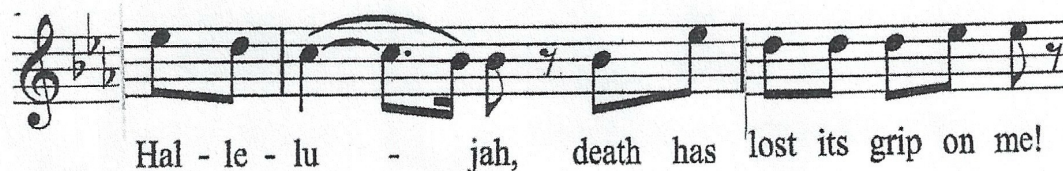


spo - ken; I am for - giv - en. The King of kings calls me His own. Beau - ti - ful



Sav - ior, I'm Yours for - ev - er. Je - sus Christ, my liv - ing hope.

**P:** Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins!



(Repeat)

## Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the dead, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## **First Reading: Acts 16:9-15**

<sup>9</sup>A vision appeared to Paul in the night: a man of Macedonia was standing there, urging him and saying, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.” <sup>10</sup>And when Paul had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go on into Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them. <sup>11</sup>So, setting sail from Troas, we made a direct voyage to Samothrace, and the following day to Neapolis, <sup>12</sup>and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city some days. <sup>13</sup>And on the Sabbath day we went outside the gate to the riverside, where we supposed there was a place of prayer, and we sat down and spoke to the women who had come together. <sup>14</sup>One who heard us was a woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple goods, who was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to pay attention to what was said by Paul. <sup>15</sup>And after she was baptized, and her household as well, she urged us, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay.” And she prevailed upon us.

## **Psalm 67 (ESV)**

<sup>1</sup>May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us,

**<sup>2</sup>that your way may be known on earth, your saving power among all nations.**

<sup>3</sup>Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you!

**<sup>4</sup>Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth.**

<sup>5</sup>Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you!

**<sup>6</sup>The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, shall bless us.**

<sup>7</sup>God shall bless us; let all the ends of the earth fear him!

## **Second Reading: Revelation 21:9-14, 21-27**

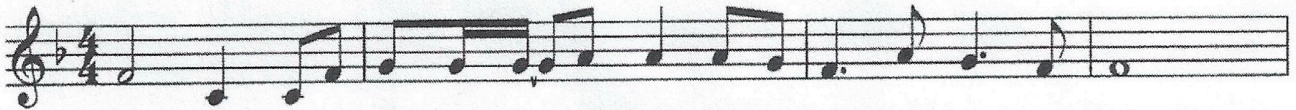
<sup>9</sup>Then came one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues and spoke to me, saying, “Come, I will show you the Bride, the wife of the Lamb.” <sup>10</sup>And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great, high mountain, and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God, <sup>11</sup>having the glory of God, its radiance like a most rare jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal. <sup>12</sup>It had a great, high wall, with twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and on the gates the names of the twelve tribes of the sons of Israel were inscribed — <sup>13</sup>on the east three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. <sup>14</sup>And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. <sup>21</sup>And the twelve gates were twelve pearls, each of the gates made of a single pearl, and the street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass. <sup>22</sup>And I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. <sup>23</sup>And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb. <sup>24</sup>By its light will the nations walk, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it, <sup>25</sup>and its gates will never be shut by day — and there will be no night there. <sup>26</sup>They will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. <sup>27</sup>But nothing unclean will ever enter it, nor anyone who does what is detestable or false, but only those who are written in the Lamb’s book of life.

# Gospel Acclamation

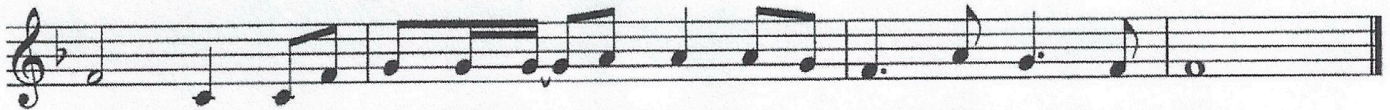
## Thy Word

*Words and Music by*  
**Amy Grant and Michael W. Smith**

### CHORUS



Thy Word is a lamp un - to my feet and a light un - to my path.



Thy Word is a lamp un - to my feet and a light un - to my path.

### Verse 1 - Soloist

*When I feel afraid, and I think I've lost my way, still You're there right beside me.  
Nothing will I fear, as long as You are near. Please be near me to the end.*

### Chorus – Congregation

### Verse 2 – Soloist

*I will not forget, Your love for me, and yet, my heart forever is wandering.  
Jesus, be my guide, and hold me to Your side, I will love You to the end.*

### Chorus – Congregation

## Gospel: John 16:23-33

<sup>23</sup>{Jesus said to his disciples,} “In that day you will ask nothing of me. Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in my name, he will give it to you. <sup>24</sup>Until now you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full. <sup>25</sup>I have said these things to you in figures of speech. The hour is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figures of speech but will tell you plainly about the Father. <sup>26</sup>In that day you will ask in my name, and I do not say to you that I will ask the Father on your behalf; <sup>27</sup>for the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God. <sup>28</sup>I came from the Father and have come into the world, and now I am leaving the world and going to the Father.” <sup>29</sup>His disciples said, “Ah, now you are speaking plainly and not using figurative speech! <sup>30</sup>Now we know that you know all things and do not need anyone to question you; this is why we believe that you came from God.” <sup>31</sup>Jesus answered them, “Do you now believe? <sup>32</sup>Behold, the hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each to his own home, and will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone, for the Father is with me. <sup>33</sup>I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”

## Children’s Message

Sermon..... ”Blessed”

**Hymn #190....."Blessed Assurance"**

1 Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!  
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,  
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

**Refrain:**

This is my story, this is my song,  
praising my Savior all the day long,  
This is my story, this is my song,  
praising my Savior all the day long.

2 Perfect submission, perfect delight,  
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;  
Angels descending bring from above  
echoes of mercy, whispers of love. (refrain)

3 Perfect submission, all is at rest;  
I in my Savior am happy and blest,  
Watching and waiting, looking above,  
filled with his goodness, lost in his love. (refrain)

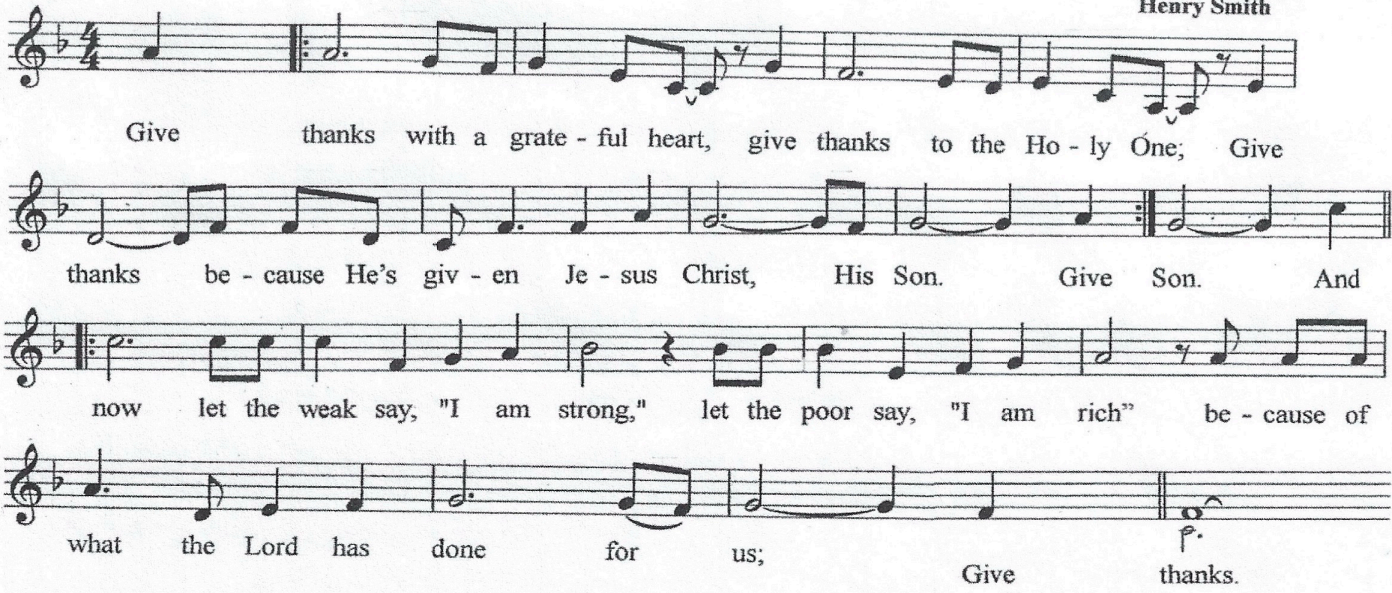
**Offering:** *As a guest or visitor, we acknowledge your presence as the only offering expected today.*

Bell Choir Anthem

Offertory ♪ Give Thanks

**Give Thanks**

*Words and Music by  
Henry Smith*



Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One; Give  
thanks be - cause He's giv - en Je - sus Christ, His Son. Give Son. And  
now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am rich" be - cause of  
what the Lord has done for us; Give thanks.

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

Prayer Response:

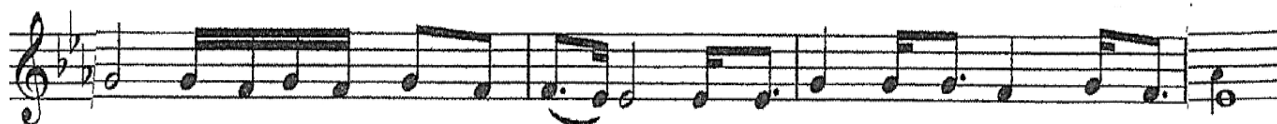
P: Lord, in your mercy, **C: Hear our prayer.**

### Lord Listen To Your Children

*Words and Music by  
Ken Medema*



Lord, lis - ten to Your chil - dren pray - ing; Lord, send Your Spir - it in this place.



Lord, lis - ten to Your chil - dren pray - ing; Send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

### 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.**

# Benediction

PASTOR - 1 VERSE

ALL - AS BELOW

## As You Go On Your Way

As you go on your way may Christ go with you. May He go be-fore you to show you the way. May He go be-hind you to en - cour - age you, Be - side you to be- friend you. A - bove you to watch o-ver, With - in you to give you

*PASTOR* peace. *ALL* As you go on your way may Christ go with you. As you

*PASTOR* go on your way may Christ go with you. As you

go on your way may Christ go with you.

**Hymn #5 .....”God of Our Fathers”**

1 God of our fathers, whose almighty hand  
Leads forth in beauty all the starry band  
Of shining worlds in splendor through the skies,  
Our grateful songs before thy throne arise.

2 Thy love divine hath led us in the past,  
In this free land by thee our lot is cast;  
Be thou our ruler, guardian, guide, and stay;  
Thy Word our law, thy paths our chosen way.

3 From war's alarms, from deadly pestilence,  
Be thy strong arm our ever sure defense;  
Thy true religion in our hearts increase,  
Thy bounteous goodness nourish us in peace.

4 Refresh thy people on their toilsome way,  
Lead us from night to never-ending day;  
Fill all our lives with love and grace divine,  
And glory, laud, and praise be ever thine.

**P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord. C: Thanks be to God!**

**Lessons for Next Week**

Acts 1:12-26; Psalm 133; Revelation 22:1-6 [7-11] 12-20; John 17:20-26

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

*John Milleville	*Steve Stumpf	Greg Milleville
*Jan Voelker	Rob Cornelius	Denise Joy
*Mark Voelker	Sharon Gates	Kate Hughey
*Roger Siegmann	Deliah Licht	Sabine Miskey
*Bill Salisbury	Alfred Swift	Mary Beth O'Brien
*Beth Wruck	Linda Arnold	
*Marina Posa Vickers	Cassie Stumpf	

## **Also Remember in Our Prayers**

### **Those in nursing homes and shut-ins**

*Morrie Johnson	*Judy Brown
*Elly Milleville	*Bill Rafter, Sr.
	James Heath

### **Organizations and Community**

Stephen Ministry

\*Young Life"

Our area public and parochial  
schools

### **All Emergency Services personnel**

\*Scott Milleville

Michael Joh DeVantier

David Nedell

### **The members of our armed forces**

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

Matthew Reddy (Niagara Falls)

Eric Graca (South Korea)

Justin DeVantier (Niagara Falls)

Michael Coulter (Korea)

Edmond Moloney (Virginia)

Joshua Drasgow (Washington State)

Keith Coleman (Okinawa)