



St. James United Methodist Church

Mailing Address: PO Box 40100, Raleigh, NC 27629

Physical Address: 3808 St. James Church Road, Raleigh, NC 27604
919-876-5796

office@stjamesraleigh.org

For all who
exalt themselves
will be humbled,

Luke 14:11, NRSV

and those who
humble themselves
will be exalted.

August 28, 2022
11:00 AM Sanctuary Worship

Summer is ending, O Holy One. Stir up our anticipation and hope for new routines and endeavors. Thank you for being with us in all seasons of life.

Prelude

We invite you to enjoy the prelude as a time of quiet reflection, and to individually prepare your hearts for the worship of God.

Call to Worship

Leader: Family, breathe in the love of God with me.

People: *(inhale deep breath in)*

Leader: Beloved Children of God, breathe out your self-doubts.

People: *(exhale deep breath out)*

Leader: Knowing that you are loved by the God of the Universe, I welcome you to worship today.

People: Our hearts are ready.

All: Amen.

Hymn – Gather Us In

TFWS 2236

Doxology

UMH 95

Sharing Peace

Blessing of the Backpacks and Third Grade Bible Presentation

Prayer Time and Lord's Prayer

(To share your joys and concerns, please email them to prayerrequests@stjamesraleigh.org, where they will then be shared with our Prayer Chain.)

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. Amen.

Choir Anthem – Holy Manna

Coty Rigda, drum

(Refrain): Lord, shower us with holy manna; Lord, shower us from above.

We gather here to sing *hosanna*; we gather to share your love.

We have gathered here to worship and adore the Lord, our God.

Will you pray with all your power while we try to preach the Word?

All is vain unless the Spirit of the Holy One comes down.
Christians, pray, and holy manna will be showered all around.
(Refrain)

Let us love our God supremely; let us love each other, too!
Let us love and pray for sinners, till our God makes all things new.
Christ will call us home to heaven; at His table, we'll sit down.
Christ will gird Himself and serve us with sweet manna all around.
(Refrain)

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Scripture Lesson – Luke 14: 1, 7-14

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the Sabbath, they were watching him closely.

When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. “When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host, and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, ‘Give this person your place,’ and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher’; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

He said also to the one who had invited him, “When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

Message – Table of Grace

Holy Communion

Invitation

UMH p. 7

The Great Thanksgiving

UMH p. 9

Hymn – *Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service*

UMH 581

Blessing & Sending Out

Out to Serve in the World

What to know this week ...

Calendar this week:

Today, 8/28	Blessing of the Backpacks/Bible Presentations, both services Pastor's meeting with Children's Programs parents, 2:30PM in Carson Hall*; Administrative Council meeting, 4PM in Carson Hall*
Mon, 8/29	Staff Meeting, 10AM in Library
Tues, 8/30	Library Committee, 9AM in the Library
Wed, 8/31	Choir rehearsal, 6PM in Carson Hall
Thurs, 9/1	New Hope Continuing Strummers, 6PM in Music Room Common Thread Band rehearsal, 7PM in Carson Hall

***Parents' meeting today:** Pastor Dan will be meeting with parents of nursery, preschool, and elementary-aged children of St. James TODAY to discuss the priorities going forward in rejuvenating our children's programs. Now's the time to voice your hopes and opinions! The meeting will be held in Carson Hall at 2:30 this afternoon, and child care will be available for the meeting.

***Admin Council reminder:** Administrative Council members: please remember our scheduled meeting TODAY at 4PM in Carson Hall.

Stan Whitt Thanks You! On August 13, 68 golfers and many volunteers came together to enjoy a round of golf and to raise money for the fight against pancreatic cancer. Because of the support of the players, donors and sponsors, over \$3400 will be donated to the Pancreatic Cancer Research Network in memory of Stan Whitt. Thanks for your continued support; without your help, none of this would be possible! See you next year!

Please remember that **the office and Food Pantry will be closed on Monday, September 6** for Labor Day. We will re-open regular hours on Tuesday.

It's almost time! The annual St. James BBQ is coming up on Friday, September 23, 11am-7pm! Start telling your friends, neighbors and co-workers now! We are repeating last year's successful drive-thru pickup only. Plates will be \$10 and include BBQ pork, boiled potatoes, slaw, hush puppies and brownie, or pick up pre-packaged quart bags of BBQ for \$12 per bag. Sharon Johnson is taking pre-orders at wjohnson99@mindspring.com. Volunteers are also needed to make our biggest fundraiser go smoothly! You may donate \$25 towards a pork shoulder (make checks to St. James UMC with "pork shoulder" on the memo line), or sign up online at <https://tinyurl.com/2022-BBQ-Volunteers> to help set up, serve, distribute, clean up, or provide brownies for the BBQ.

Youth, mark your calendars! St. James UMYF youth group for grades 6-12 will kick off the 2022-23 year on Sunday, September 11, 4-6PM in Montague Hall. Welcome Aaron Waid as the new youth leader and enjoy a hot dog supper!