



**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](mailto:office@stjamesraleigh.org)



September 3, 2023  
11:00 AM Sanctuary Worship

Welcome! God says: "Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth" (Psalm 78:1). Let us listen for God's voice as we worship.

## Prelude

## Welcome and Announcements

### Call to Worship

Leader: Followers of Christ, God calls us just as we are to live as truth-tellers and bring gospel-bringers in the world.

**People: God, we know you call us, and still we ask, "Who am I that you would call me?"**

Leader: As we raise this question to God today, we open our hearts to receive God's answer:

**ALL: You are my beloved children. You are my disciples. You are my people called to share the love of God for the transformation of the world. Amen.**

Hymns – *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

UMH 127

Doxology

UMH 95

### Sharing the Peace of Christ

### Responsive Reading

Psalm 105: 1-6, 23-26, 45c

Leader: O give thanks to the Lord; call on his name; make known his deeds among the peoples.

**People: Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wonderful works.**

Leader: Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

**People: Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his presence continually.**

Leader: Remember the wonderful works he has done, his miracles and the judgments he has uttered,

**People: O offspring of his servant Abraham, children of Jacob, his chosen ones.**

Leader: Then Israel came to Egypt; Jacob lived as an alien in the land of Ham.

**People: And the Lord made his people very fruitful and made them stronger than their foes,**

Leader: whose hearts he then turned to hate his people, to deal craftily with his servants.

**People: He sent his servant Moses and Aaron, whom he had chosen,**

Leader: that they might keep his statutes and observe his laws.

**ALL: Praise the Lord!**

### Prayer Time and Lord's Prayer

*(Please use the prayer cards in the pews or email [prayerrequests@stjamesraleigh.org](mailto:prayerrequests@stjamesraleigh.org) to share your prayer concerns. You may place prayer cards in the prayer box near the altar rail.)*

**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.**

**Gospel Reading – Matthew 16: 21-28**

NRSV pew Bible, p. 17 (NT)

**The Apostles Creed**

UMH 881

**Scripture Reading – Exodus 3: 1-15**

NRSV pew Bible, p. 48 (OT)

**Choir Anthem – *Here I Am, Lord***

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.

All who dwell in dark and sin, my hand will save.

I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.

I will go, Lord, if You lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.

I have wept for love of them. They turn away.

I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.

I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.

I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.

Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.

I will give my life for them, Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.

I will go, Lord, if You lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I will go, Lord. Here I am.

Daniel L. Schutte; arr. Ovid Young. ©1996 Augsburg Fortress

**Hymn – *It Is Well with My Soul***

UMH 377

**Hymn – *Breathe on Me, Breath of God***

UMH 420

**Hymn – *Because He Lives***

UMH 364

**Closing Hymn – *The Summons***

TFWS 2130

**Blessing & Sending Out to Serve in the World**

Today's Greeters: Phil & Pat Fasone  
Today's Sound System Operator: Mike Lamar

Next Week's Greeters: Prince & Gloria Jones  
Next Week's Sound Operator: Matoka Snuggs  
Next Week's Altar Flowers: Kerney & Mary Hayes

*We have a nursery available for infants through age 4. An usher will be glad to direct you. We always welcome children of all ages to join us in worship, and Worship Activity Bags are available at the entrance if your child would like one.*

*If you are visiting us today, welcome! Please take a moment to fill out a visitor card, found in the pew holders, and return it to the offering plate or one of the ushers/greeters. Thank you for worshipping with us at St. James today!*

### **What to know this week...**

#### **Calendar this week:**

**TODAY, 9/3**      *Common Thread contemporary worship, 9:15AM in Carson Hall  
Discipleship Hour, 10AM throughout church campus  
Sanctuary traditional worship, 11AM in the Sanctuary  
St. James Youth, 4PM in Montague Hall  
NA, 7PM in Saints Hall*

**Mon, 9/4**      **Office Closed for Labor Day**

**Tues, 9/5**      *Library Committee, 9AM in the Library*

**Wed, 9/6**      *Choir Rehearsal, 6PM in Music Room/Sanctuary*

**Thurs, 9/7**      *New Hope Strummers, 6:15PM in Music Room  
Common Thread Band Practice, 7PM in Carson Hall*

**Sat, 9/9**      **\*Produce Assembly, 8:30AM in Carson Hall**

**Sun, 9/10**      **\*3Q Special Offering for Backpack Buddies**  
*Common Thread contemporary worship, 9:15AM in Carson Hall  
Discipleship Hour, 10AM throughout church campus  
Sanctuary traditional worship, 11AM in the Sanctuary  
**Board of Trustees, 4PM in the Library**  
**Congregational Care, 4PM in Room 12**  
**\*Kids Club Kickoff/St. James Youth, 4PM in Carson Hall**  
**SPRC, 5PM in Room 12**  
NA, 7PM in Saints Hall*

**Are you interested in serving as a liturgist/lay reader?** We would like to bring back the liturgists for both worship services. Liturgists will read the announcements, read one of the scripture passages, and possibly lead the prayer after the offering is collected in the 11am service. If you are interested in being a liturgist, please email Sandra Horton ([sbhorton1957@gmail.com](mailto:sbhorton1957@gmail.com)) or Bailey Martin ([youth@stjamesraleigh.org](mailto:youth@stjamesraleigh.org)).

**\*Special Offering:** Our 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter special offering will support our Backpack Buddies program. This is a new mission that provides weekend food staples to food-insecure children at Wildwood Forest Elementary each week during the school year. This offering will be collected on **Sunday, September 10**; please label your checks or offering envelopes with "Backpack Buddies."

**Kids Club Kickoff is Sunday, September 10 at 4:00PM** in Carson Hall. Bailey will lead the youth and kids in a Family Feud Night: Adult Volunteers vs. Kids/Youth. If you are currently volunteering, or have considered volunteering with either Kids Club or Youth, we invite you to come join us for some fun and to learn more about what is planned for the Kids Club and Youth programs for 2023-24!

**Fall Bible Study:** Pastor Dan will lead a 12-week Bible Study on the book of Acts, beginning **Monday, September 18**. The class will meet September 18-December 11 at 10:30AM in Room 12. The book of Acts chronicles some of the most important events in Christian history: the scattering of Jesus's disciples across the known world, the coming of the Holy Spirit, the birth of the early church, and more. Books will cost \$7 each; a sign-up sheet is available on the clipboard wall in the lobby.



**The Annual BBQ Fundraiser is coming Friday, September 29!** Please think how you can support this fundraiser: whether by cooking, assembling plates, baking brownies, taking orders &/or delivering them to local businesses, or publicizing the BBQ to all your friends and neighbors! Sign up to help at [www.tinyurl.com/BBQVolunteers!](http://www.tinyurl.com/BBQVolunteers)

The 2023 **Stan Whitt Classic Golf Tournament** scheduled for August 26, 2023 **has been rescheduled for October 7**. There's still time to put a team together and register! Download a form [here](#) or pick one up on the clipboard wall in the church lobby. If you have any questions, please contact Milburn Holbrook (919-554-1419, 919-247-5233 or [mholbr2@ncsu.edu](mailto:mholbr2@ncsu.edu)).



**Scan this code to give your offering online!**