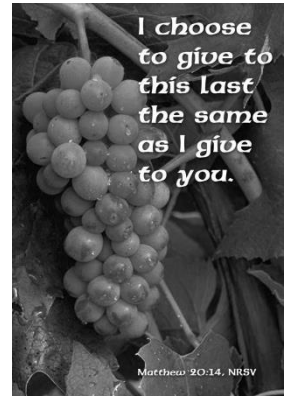




September 24, 2023 9:15AM

We are tenants, not owners, of this “vineyard” — this earth, this life.
God, as we live and work in your vineyard, teach us to cultivate love.



Song – Great Is the Lord

Great is the Lord, He is holy and just; by His power we trust in His love.

Great is the Lord, He is faithful and true; by His mercy He proves He is love.

Great is the Lord and worthy of glory! Great is the Lord and worthy of praise.

Great is the Lord; now lift up your voice, now lift up your voice: Great is the Lord! Great is the Lord!

Great is the Lord, He is holy and just; by His power we trust in His love.

Great is the Lord, He is faithful and true; by His mercy He proves He is love.

Great is the Lord and worthy of glory! Great is the Lord and worthy of praise.

Great is the Lord; now lift up your voice, now lift up your voice: Great is the Lord! Great is the Lord!

Great are You, Lord, and worthy of glory! Great are You, Lord, and worthy of praise.

Great are You, Lord; I lift up my voice, I lift up my voice: Great are You, Lord! Great are You, Lord!

Michael W. Smith and Deborah D. Smith © 1982 Meadowgreen Music co.. CCLI# 1374588

Welcome & Announcements

Children's Message

Bible Presentation

Prayer Time & Lord's Prayer

(Prayer cards are available to share your joys and concerns and may be placed in the prayer box by the door, or you may 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.

Song – Dwell

I come before You today, and there's just one thing that I want to say;

Thank You, Lord, thank You, Lord,

For all You've given to me, for all the blessings that I cannot see;

Thank You, Lord, thank You, Lord.

With a grateful heart, with a song of praise, with an outstretched arm I will bless Your name.

Thank You, Lord, I just want to thank You, Lord; thank You, Lord, I just want to thank You, Lord.

Thank You, Lord.

For all You've done in my life, You took my darkness and gave me Your light;

Thank You, Lord, thank You, Lord.

You took my sin and my shame, You took my sickness and healed all my pain;

Thank You, Lord, thank You, Lord.

With a grateful heart, with a song of praise, with an outstretched arm I will bless Your name.

Thank You, Lord, I just want to thank You, Lord; thank You, Lord, I just want to thank You, Lord.

Thank You, Lord.

Paul Baloche & Don Moen © 2004 Integrity's Hosanna! Music. CCLI# 1374588

Gospel Reading – Matthew 20: 1-16

“For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around, and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received a denarius. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

Message – Is God Fair?

Pastor Dan Baer

Song – *How Great Is Our God*

The splendor of the King, clothed in majesty; let all the earth rejoice, all the earth rejoice.

He wraps Himself in light, and darkness tries to hide, and trembles at His voice, and trembles at His voice.

How great is our God! Sing with me: How great is our God!

And all will see how great, how great is our God!

And age to age He stands, and time is in His hands; Beginning and the End, Beginning and the End.

The Godhead, three in one, our Father, Spirit, Son, the Lion and the Lamb, the Lion and the Lamb.

How great is our God! Sing with me: How great is our God!

And all will see how great, how great is our God!

How great is our God! Sing with me: How great is our God!

And all will see how great, how great is our God!

How great, how great is our God!

Chris Tomlin, Jesse Reeves and Ed Cash. © 2004 worshiptogether.com Songs/sixsteps Music/Alletrope Music; CCLI# 1374588

Benediction

Sharing Offerings

Out to Discipleship, and Into the World to Serve

Today's Greeters: Scott & Leslie Payne

Today's Sound/PowerPoint Operator: Paulo DeOliveira

Next Week's Greeters: Tom, Stephanie & Blake Wilson

Next Week's Sound/PowerPoint Operator: Mike Lamar

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 on the worship table), and return it to the offering basket or one of the greeters.
Thank you for worshipping with us at St. James today!*



*Scan this code to give
your offering online!*

Calendar this week:

- TODAY, 9/24** Common Thread contemporary worship, 9:15AM in Carson Hall
***Backpack Buddies Packing, 10AM in Carson Hall**
Discipleship Hour, 10AM throughout church campus
Sanctuary traditional worship, 11AM in the Sanctuary
Kids Club Kickoff/St. James Youth, 4PM in Carson Hall
NA, 7PM in Saints Hall
- Mon, 9/25** Acts Bible Study, 10:30AM in Room 12
Raleigh SeniorTechEd Open Help Workshop, 1PM in Room 12
Children's Ministries Council, 6:30PM in the Library
GS Troop 4331, 6:30PM in Montague Hall
- Tues, 9/26** Library Committee, 9AM in the Library
Staff Meeting, 10:30AM in the Office
GS Troop 733, 6PM in Montague Hall
- Wed, 9/27** **Mary Brown Circle, 10AM in Room 12**
Christmas Cantata Practice, 6PM in the Music Room
Choir Rehearsal, 6:30PM in Music Room/Sanctuary
- Thurs, 9/28** New Hope Strummers, 6:15PM in Music Room
Common Thread Band Practice, 7PM in Carson Hall
- Fri, 9/29** ***BBQ Fundraiser, 11AM-7PM in Kitchen, Carson Hall, & Playground Parking Lot (drive-thru)**
- Sun, 10/1** Common Thread contemporary worship, 9:15AM in Carson Hall
Discipleship Hour, 10AM throughout church campus
Sanctuary traditional worship, 11AM in the Sanctuary
NA, 7PM in Saints Hall

What to know this week...

***Mission Opportunity:** Join us **TODAY during Discipleship Time** to help pack 125 Backpack Buddies bags to cover weekly delivery through October. We will gather in Carson Hall immediately following Common Thread. Everyone is welcome! Contact Tom Wilson (919-274-0342) if you have questions.

***Kids Club Kickoff – 2nd Try:** We're going to try the Family Feud between Kids Club/Youth and the adults again **TODAY at 4:00pm in Carson Hall**. Bailey will lead the game following a brief parents' meeting and snack supper. Game time will be at 5pm: don't miss it!

Fall Bible Study: Pastor Dan will lead a 12-week Bible Study on the book of Acts each **Monday at 10:30am in Room 12**. Books cost \$7 each; a sign-up sheet and payment envelopes are available on the clipboard wall in the lobby.

***Raleigh SeniorTechEd:** If you need help figuring out your technical devices (smartphones, tablets, computers), drop by Room 12 at 1pm tomorrow afternoon. The RSTE techs will be glad to help you during this Open Help Workshop!

***Christmas Cantata Practice Starting!** Anyone who is interested in singing the Christmas Cantata with the choir should join us in the Music Room on Wednesday nights 6:00-6:30pm. The Cantata is scheduled for Sunday, December 17 during 11am Sanctuary Worship.



***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 <https://tinyurl.com/SJ-BBQVolunteers>! We are also accepting \$25 donations towards the purchase of pork shoulders: just designate "Pork Shoulder" on your envelope or check (made to St. James UMC).

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).

Church Luncheon Planned! Join us for a concessions-style lunch on **Sunday, October 8 at 12:00 noon**. We'll have hot dogs with all the fixings, nachos with homemade queso, popcorn and ice cream! And our PNC Concessions Team will share a report about our fundraising efforts in 2022-23. Please let us know that you're coming by signing up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E49A4AD2EABF85-never#/> or on the clipboard sheet in the church lobby.

And, while we're on the subject, it's time to start **volunteering for PNC Arena Concessions** again! This is a great fundraiser for our church and an opportunity to fellowship with church friends! If you're new to the team, don't worry – we'll train you. Please check out the dates and sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E49A4AD2EABF85-concessions>.

Blessing of the Animals Service: Bring your furry, feathered, or scaly friends to a blessing service on Sunday, October 8 at 3:30pm. Park in the playground parking lot and we'll gather together in the yard. All animals should be suitably controlled: whether on leashes or in kennels or cages.

Rev. Dan Baer, Lead Pastor.....	dan@stjamesraleigh.org
Martha Brown, Office Manager.....	office@stjamesraleigh.org
LaTonia Tyner & Brenda Smith, Finance Office — Onsite Tuesdays only.....	finance@stjamesraleigh.org
Chrissy Dunavan, Music Director.....	chrissy@stjamesraleigh.org
Sue King, Assistant Organist.....	sue@stjamesraleigh.org
Bailey Martin, Youth Director.....	youth@stjamesraleigh.org

Church Office & Food Pantry Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Church Office: 919-876-5796

Pastor's Cell: 919-801-1647

Church Website:.....	www.stjamesraleigh.org
Church Office Administration email.....	office@stjamesraleigh.org
Children's Ministries email.....	kidsmin@stjamesraleigh.org
Prayer Requests email.....	prayerrequests@stjamesraleigh.org