



January 7, 2024 9:15AM

Welcome to worship, dear family of God. As we celebrate the Epiphany and the Baptism of Our Lord, may God enlighten us all.



Song – “10,000 Reasons”

Bless the Lord, oh, my soul, oh, my soul. Worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, oh, my soul. I worship Your holy name.
The sun comes up. It's a new day dawning. It's time to sing Your song again.
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me, let me be singing when the ev'ning comes.

Bless the Lord, oh, my soul, oh, my soul. Worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, oh, my soul. I worship Your holy name.

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger. Your name is great and Your heart is kind.
For all your goodness I will keep on singing ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

Bless the Lord, oh, my soul, oh, my soul. Worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, oh, my soul. I worship Your holy name.
And on that day when my strength is failing, the end draws near and my time has come,
still my soul will sing Your praise unending, ten thousand years and then forever more.

Bless the Lord, oh, my soul, oh, my soul. Worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, oh, my soul. I worship Your holy name.
Yes, I will worship Your holy name. Lord, I worship Your holy name.
Sing like never before, oh, my soul. I worship Your holy name.
Yes, I will worship Your holy name. Lord, I worship Your holy name.

Matt Redman, Jonas Myrin; arr. Dan Galbraith & Brad Henderson

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Welcome & Announcements

Children's Message

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 – Offering

The sun cannot compare to the glory of Your love; there is no shadow in Your presence.
No mortal man would dare to stand before Your throne, before the Holy One of Heaven.
It's only by Your blood, and it's only through Your mercy, Lord, I come.

I bring an offering of worship to my King.
No one on earth deserves the praises that I sing.
Jesus, may You receive the honor that You're due;

O Lord I bring an offering to You.

Over the skies of Bethlehem appeared a star while angels sang to lowly shepherds.
Three wise men seeking truth traveled from afar hoping to find the Child from Heaven.
Falling on their knees, they bowed before the humble Prince of Peace.

I bring an offering of worship to my King.
No one on earth deserves the praises that I sing.
Jesus, may You receive the honor that You're due;
O Lord, I bring an offering to You.

I bring an offering of worship to my King.
No one on earth deserves the praises that I sing.
Jesus, may You receive the honor that You're due;
O Lord, I bring an offering to You. O Lord, I bring an offering to You.

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Scripture Readings:

Isaiah 60: 1-6

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.
For darkness shall cover the earth and thick darkness the peoples,
but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you.
Nations shall come to your light and kings to the brightness of your dawn.
Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together; they come to you;
your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried in their nurses' arms.
Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice,
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you; the wealth of the nations shall come to you.
A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.
They shall bring gold and frankincense and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

Mark 1: 4-11

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And the whole Judean region and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him and were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the strap of his sandals. I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."
In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove upon him. And a voice came from the heavens, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

Message - New Beginnings

Pastor Dan Baer

Song – Holy Spirit Rain Down

Holy Spirit, rain down, rain down; O Comforter and Friend, how we need Your touch again;
Holy Spirit, rain down, rain down; let Your power fall, let Your voice be heard,
come and change our hearts as we stand on Your Word; Holy Spirit, rain down.

No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind can know what God has in store,
So open up Heaven, open it wide, over Your church and over our lives.

Holy Spirit, rain down, rain down; O Comforter and Friend, how we need Your touch again;
Holy Spirit, rain down, rain down; let Your power fall, let Your voice be heard,
come and change our hearts as we stand on Your Word; Holy Spirit, rain down.
Rain down, rain down. Rain down, rain down. Rain.

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Benediction

Sharing Offerings

Out to Discipleship, and Into the World to Serve

Today's Greeters: Tony & Sandra Horton
Today's Sound/PowerPoint Operator: Keith Walkowiak

Next Week's Greeters: Keith, Temple, Meredith & Thomas Walkowiak
Next Week's Sound/PowerPoint Operator: Matoka Snuggs & Tucker Thorpe

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!*

Calendar this week:

TODAY, 1/7 Common Thread contemporary worship, 9:15AM in Carson Hall
Discipleship Hour, 10AM throughout campus
Sanctuary traditional worship, 11AM in the Sanctuary
***Conference-Wide Leadership Training 2 sessions held virtually**
***Christmas Un-decorating, 3PM throughout campus**
***SJ Youth to Conference REFRESH Event, 4-8PM at Millbrook UMC**
Trustees Meeting, 4PM in Room 12
NA, 7PM in Saints Hall

Mon, 1/8 GS Troop 4331, 6:30PM in Montague Hall
SPRC Meeting, 6:30PM in the Library

Tues, 1/9 Library Committee, 9AM in the Library
Staff Meeting, 10:30AM in the Office
GS Troop 733, 6PM in Montague Hall

Wed, 1/10 Choir Rehearsal, 7PM in the Sanctuary

Thurs, 1/11 New Hope Strummers, 6:15PM in Music Room
Common Thread Band Rehearsal, 7PM in Carson Hall

Fri, 1/12 ***Board Game Night, 6PM in Carson Hall**

Sat, 1/13 ***Fulton Betts' "100 Years Young" Party, 1-4PM in Carson Hall**
GS Troop 1929, 1:30PM in Montague Hall

Sun, 1/14 Common Thread contemporary worship, 9:15AM in Carson Hall
Discipleship Hour, 10AM throughout campus
Sanctuary traditional worship, 11AM in the Sanctuary
Congregational Care Council, 4PM in Room 12
Worship Team, 5PM in Room 12
***SJ Youth Lock-In, 4PM in Carson & Montague Halls**

What to know this week...

***Conference-Wide Leadership Training:** The NC Conference of the UMC is hosting virtual trainings on Sunday, January 7 for all who serve in their local congregations in any of the following committees/roles: Lay Leaders, Administrative/Church Council, SPRC, Nominations, Finance, Trustees. Two sessions will be offered 2:00-3:30pm and 4:00-5:30pm. Please visit nccumc.org/leadership/event/leadership-training to get more information about the Zoom training sessions or to register.

***Un-decorating Christmas at St. James:** Altar Guild chair Kathi Doby is looking for volunteers to help take down and pack away the Christmas decorations from around the church and grounds. She plans to meet in Carson Hall at 3PM TODAY. Please contact her at kdoby77296@aol.com or 919-632-3552 if you would like to help or have questions.

***Youth REFRESH Event, TONIGHT:** St. James Youth have been invited to the district REFRESH event at Millbrook UMC, TONIGHT, 4-8PM. Please let Bailey know if you're attending!

Board Game Night this Friday! Please join the Social Committee for a fun evening of board games on Friday, January 12 at 6:00PM in Carson Hall. Bring your favorite game or two and some food to share. We'll have tables and chairs set up for a casual evening of games for all ages.

Rescheduled "100 Years Young" Party: Fulton Betts's 100th birthday party that was postponed in November has been rescheduled to Saturday, January 13, in Carson Hall. Feel free to drop by anytime 1-4PM to share congratulations, memories, food & fellowship with St. James' only centenarian!

The 2024 Altar Flowers Signup is Available! If you'd like to provide altar flowers for the sanctuary in 2024, please visit the online signup page at www.tinyurl.com/2023AltarFlowers, sign up on the clipboard in the church lobby, or contact Martha Brown (office@stjamesraleigh.org; 919-876-5796) for assistance.

2024 Calendar Reminder: Committee chairs and ministry/mission/program leaders: Please be sure to plan ahead and submit your 2023 Ministry Planning Sheets to get your events on the church calendar! Since there are several new faces on the Administrative Council this coming year, some meeting dates and times may change. Reserve your dates and spaces as soon as possible; all are first-come, first served. Planning sheets are available in the church office and on the Members page of the church website (stjumc.us).

Life Line Screening is coming January 24, 9AM-5PM: Life Line Screening, the nation's leading provider of preventive health screenings, will offer affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings Wednesday, January 24, 2024 at Saint James UMC. A package of five screenings to identify risk for stroke, heart disease and other chronic conditions is offered for only \$159 and take 60-90 minutes to complete. If you register today, you will receive a \$10 member discount. Register by calling toll free 1-888-653-6450, visit <https://llsa.social/HC> or text the word "circle" to 797979.

Introducing the Mr. St. James Pageant 2024! Come support the St James UMY and get to know some of the United Methodist Men a little better. On Sunday, January 28, we will have lunch provided by the UMM following the 11AM service. During the lunch we'll have a "men's pageant" to raise money for the UMY. Your donations will determine the winner. One dollar equals one vote. Join us for fun, fellowship, and to choose your Mr. St James!

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| 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 |
| Wanda Ramm, Music Director..... | music@stjamesraleigh.org |
| Jeff Bottoms, Organist/Accompanist..... | music@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

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| 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 |