For where your treasure is there your heart will be also.

Saint James Time and Talent Campaign 2023

The Fifth Week of Eastertide 2023

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In the liturgy that I grew up with as a Lutheran, we spoke these words as the offering plates were brought forward: "Gracious Lord, we offer to you what you have first given us: Ourselves, our time and our possessions. Signs of your gracious love."

This past fall, we conducted a campaign that was focused on the "possessions" part of that prayer, and thanks to each one of you, that campaign was one of the most successful in Saint James history. We continue to be deeply grateful for your response to that effort, for the mission and ministry of Saint James cannot continue to flourish without your generous financial support.

But that prayer reminds us that our "treasure" is about more than our financial resources. It is also about "ourselves and our time," or what we often refer to as our "time and talent." The talent within our congregation is clearly extraordinary. Throughout our history, the deep gifts that have been shared generously, have resulted in the remarkable parish we know and love today. The sharing of your gifts, "your selves, your time," continues that legacy and will ensure that our future is as remarkable as our past and present.

In this mailing, you will find a very simple inventory of the current service opportunities at Saint James. From handing a visitor a bulletin, to handing the cup of salvation to a brother or sister in Christ, from making coffee on a Sunday, to making your way to a homebound member with communion, each of these opportunities, and many more, taken together, fulfills Christ's call upon us to serve.

It is my hope that we will all respond just as generously to this campaign for your time and talent as we responded last fall with our financial commitments. Your service will not only benefit those you serve, but it will also benefit you, deepening your connection to one another and just so, to the Lord Christ who calls us all to this service. Please prayerfully consider how you might serve in some new way, fill out the enclosed form, and return it to the parish office in the enclosed envelope no later than Sunday June 4. (This form can also be accessed online at saintjameslancaster.org.)

119 N. Duke St. | Lancaster, PA 17602 717-397-4858 saintjameslancaster.org founded 1744 And a special note: The very last box that can be checked off on the form you will notice is "OTHER." We've included that because we know that there may well be opportunities for service that don't yet exist at Saint James, or that we simply haven't thought of. If you have an idea (and are willing to contribute your time and talent to making it happen!) we want to hear about it.

God bless you all in these holy days of Eastertide.

Clamp. Aller +

Fr. Glenn Miller

GW/kk