

January 14, 2024

Vol. XXVI No. 2

The Second Sunday after Epiphany

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

P.O. Box 98, Okabena, MN 56161

A member congregation of the
Church of the Lutheran Confession

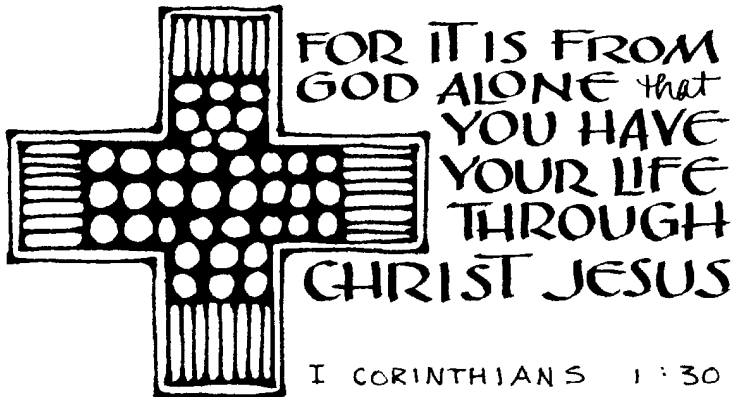
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WELCOME To all of you who are visiting our service this morning, we extend a most cordial welcome in Jesus' name. It is our hope that you will feel at home in our midst and will be blessed by our message of Christ crucified and risen for the sins of the world.

If you are looking for a church home or would like to know more about our beliefs and practices, please see the pastor. He will be glad to visit with you at your convenience. Be sure to join us again.

Prelude Mrs. Lana Strike

Hymn 24 *Lord of My Life, Those Tender Care*

Order of Service Page 5ff. in The Lutheran Hymnal

Old Testament Lesson 1 Samuel 3:1-10 Now the boy Samuel ministered to the Lord before Eli. And the word of the Lord was rare in those days; there was no widespread revelation. And it came to pass at that time, while Eli was lying down in his place, and when his eyes had begun to grow so dim that he could not see, and before the lamp of God went out in the tabernacle of the Lord where the ark of God was, and while Samuel was lying down, that the Lord called Samuel. And he answered, "Here I am!" So he ran to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." And he said, "I did not call; lie down again." And he went and lay down.

Then the Lord called yet again, "Samuel!" So Samuel arose and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." He answered, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." (Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, nor was the word of the Lord yet revealed to him.)

And the Lord called Samuel again the third time. So he arose and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you did call me." Then Eli perceived that the Lord had called the boy. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and it shall be, if He calls you, that you must say, 'Speak, Lord, for Your servant hears.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

Now the Lord came and stood and called as at other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel answered, "Speak, for Your servant hears."

Epistle Lesson 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 All things are lawful for me, but all things are not helpful. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any. Foods for the stomach and the stomach for foods, but God will destroy both it and them. Now the body is not for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God both raised up the Lord and will also raise us up by His power.

Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a harlot? Certainly not! Or do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body with her? For "the two," He says, "shall become one flesh." But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him.

Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

Hymn 296 *Speak, O Lord, Thy Servant Heareth*

Sermon John 1:43-51 The following day Jesus wanted to go to Galilee, and He found Philip and said to him, "Follow Me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found Him of whom Moses in the law, and also the prophets, wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." And Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see."

Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward Him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no deceit!" Nathanael said to Him, "How do You know me?" Jesus answered and said to him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." Nathanael answered and said to Him, "Rabbi, You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!"

Jesus answered and said to him, "Because I said to you, 'I saw you under the fig tree,' do you believe? You will see greater things than these." And He said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, hereafter you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

A Surprising Answer for An Unsurprising Question

Offering of Thankful Hearts

Hymn 744 *How Great Thou Art*

Prayer + The Lord's Prayer

The Benediction

Hymn 48 *How Blest Are They Who Hear God's Word*

ANNUAL MEETING The Voters of St. John's are invited and encouraged to attend our annual voters' meeting on Sunday, January 21, after the noon potluck meal. Besides regular board reports, the agenda will include: re-visiting the topic of investing extra funds with a member for a higher rate of return, CBP estimate, Lent and Easter schedules, April Quarterly Meeting date. Any other agenda items should be given to Chairman Phil Strike as soon as possible.

ANNUAL REPORT Please see the address list in the entryway and make sure that your information is up to date. Thank you.

THANK YOU The fulltime, called workers wish to express their deepest gratitude for the kindness that you have shown to us throughout the year, and especially at Christmastime. We greatly appreciate your support and encouragement!

In Christ, Mrs. Eigenberg, Mrs. Strike, and Pastor

CLC NEWS Pastor Thomas Schuetze, Lakewood, CO has the calls to Marquette and Iron River, MI. Pastor Aaron Ude, Rapid City, SD has returned the call to Mankato. The ILC Bd. of Regents has called Dan Roehl to replace Professor Mark Kranz, who is retiring for health reasons. Ann Sprengeler, Markesan, WI will be retiring at the end of this school year.

National Women's Retreat--You're Invited! Join your Christian sisters near and far at the next virtual retreat held via Zoom on Saturday, January 20th (Noon Eastern / 11:00 a.m. Central / 10:00 a.m. Mountain / 9:00 a.m. Pacific). This year's theme is "Press Pause: God Made Me..." and will highlight the differing gifts that God gave each of us to use to His glory. Register at: <http://tinyurl.com/NatRetreat24>

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USHERS 01/14 Phil S., Nathan V., Anthony F., Daniel R.
01/21 Trevor B., Tim Z., Joshua E., Christian K., David R.
01/28 Kendall B., Larry B. Jonathen L.

CLEANING (Wk. 1) S. Aden, L. Bauman, B. Dronen, L. Ferguson
The Boernsens